

Delegates hear hint of US-style president in sweeping reforms

Gorbachov's new revolution

From Mary Dejevsky, Moscow

In some of the most sweeping proposals made by any Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachov yesterday offered his people the prospect of government by an American-style president and legislature.

Delivering his keynote address to the Soviet national Communist Party conference here, the first such gathering for 47 years, Mr Gorbachov reiterated his commitment to radical economic and political reform, restated his intention of making the Soviet Union a state of law and outlined a series of changes to the state administrative structure that could transform the way the Soviet Union is governed.

The most significant reform would do away with the Supreme Soviet — the country's nominal parliament — in its present form and replace it with a new and smaller body with full legislative powers.

It would also have a president, whose precise powers, as Mr

Gorbachov made clear, have yet to be decided. One possibility is that the president and the general secretary of the party would be the same person.

His powers as outlined by Mr Gorbachov would be similar to those of an American president. He would give overall guidance in drafting legislation, have a deciding voice in foreign and defence policy and nominate members of the government.

Abandoning one of the cherished principles of the Bolshevik revolution, Mr Gorbachov said that the quotas assuring workers, peasants and intellectuals a certain proportion of seats in elections would change. People would be elected by secret ballot, exclusively on merit.

At local level, the Soviet leader proposed that the head of the local party should also chair the local government soviet and be accountable to it. Only this, he said, would ensure that the Communist Party could not overrule the elected organs of local government.

Mr Gorbachov spoke lyrically of the initial results of *glasnost* and *perestroika* — which, he said, had released a powerful flood of emotions and truth and "given Soviet people wings". But he was also



Mr Gorbachov: In the mood for startling reforms at the congress.

highly critical of progress made in restructuring the economy and the poor response from local party organizations.

Mr Gorbachov left his audience in no doubt as to the economic crisis still facing the Soviet Union despite the reform measures enacted over the past two-and-a-half years.

Blaming the sequence of Stalin's "command methods" and Brezhnev's "period of stagnation", he said that the condition of the Soviet economy had been far more serious than had originally been thought. Without giving figures, he

said the country was running a budget deficit which had caused inflation and destabilized the ruble, and he signalled that his long-term objective was to make the Soviet currency convertible.

Among the other areas where he called for urgent action were solving the food and housing problem, which he said the leadership had "neither the moral nor political right to neglect", the extension of the system of leasing agricultural land, and the reform of wholesale and retail prices — many of which have remained unchanged since the late 1920s — which he pledged could be accomplished without affecting living standards.

He also emphasized the need for a complete reformulation of the legal system to include the presumption of the defendant's innocence before trial and the separation of the preliminary investigation from the court which would try the case.

Religious believers were given "separate undertakings that their freedom of conscience would be respected and would soon be enshrined in a new law".

Indicating how seriously the Soviet leadership takes the recent outbreaks of nationalist unrest, Mr Gorbachov said that the con-

ference would hold a special session to discuss the question of nationalism.

Reaction from the 5,000 delegates suggests that Mr Gorbachov could have difficulty getting many of his proposals through. The first applause came only after 75 minutes and then in response to the few calls for caution. For most of the 3½-hour speech, the audience sat impassively.

After the afternoon session of the conference, which was closed to journalists, Mr Aleksandr Yak-

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ovlev, a member of the Politburo and secretary of the central committee, described Mr Gorbachov's speech as "a huge step forward in democratization ... which would pave the way for the Soviet Union to become a free and open society".

Mr Yakovlev was addressing a press conference at which the human rights campaigner and former dissident, Dr Andre Sakharov was in the audience.

Mr Yakovlev dismissed any suggestion that the party was not united behind Mr Gorbachov's proposals by noting that the speech

had been approved by the Politburo eight days before. The arguments currently going on in Soviet society, he said, were evidence that present changes were real and not contrived.

● **Protests broken up:** Police used force to break up a demonstration by 150 Crimean Tatars in front of Moscow city hall yesterday and questioned protesters (Our Foreign Staff writes).

Some 30 demonstrators were dragged into waiting vans and others were stopped as they tried to make their way towards the Kremlin. Two Western television crews, CBS and the Swiss-Italian RTSI, were also jostled by police.

Soviet plainclothes police also detained at least seven people at an unofficial street gathering organized by the Democratic Union, a group which has proclaimed itself an opposition party and called for a multiparty system in the Soviet Union.

Witnesses saw plainclothes agents bundle the seven into a van and drive away after the group tried to address a crowd of some 300 on a central Moscow street.

Security forces reportedly also broke up a demonstration on Sunday by 20,000 Tatars in Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan.

Europe 'is on course' for 1992

From Richard Owen, Hanover

The EEC summit in Hanover yesterday declared that the goal of creating a Single European Market by 1992 had become "irreversible", with a third of the programme already accomplished, and took a step towards monetary union by appointing a special committee to report within a year.

But Mrs Thatcher told fellow leaders: "I do not share the dream of a United States of Europe with a single currency." The Prime Minister succeeded in removing any reference to a European Central Bank in the terms of reference laid down for the special committee. It will be headed by M Jacques Delors, who was confirmed yesterday as President of the European Commission for a further four years.

The summit appealed to South Africa to grant clemency to the Sharpeville Six. On

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the opening day of the party conference in Moscow, the EEC leaders welcomed a "more outward looking attitude" in the Soviet bloc.

The summit was dominated by tensions over the vision of a European Bank, with President Mitterrand of France leading the campaign for monetary integration and a single currency.

In a declaration which marked the mood of harmony which prevailed at the Hanover summit — designed to take stock of the EEC's progress towards integration — Mrs Thatcher said: "I see no possibility of a European Central Bank in my lifetime and possibly never." The Prime Minister also rejected pressure for starting to enter the European Monetary Union.

Mrs Thatcher said the way forward lay through the creation of wealth and employment as trade obstacles were removed. She said Britain was "a long way in front" of other countries which wanted to move towards a European Bank and a common currency but which — unlike Britain — had not fully abolished exchange controls or liberalized capital movements.

As the summit ended, President Mitterrand said that despite Mrs Thatcher's interpretation of monetary union, those who favoured an eventual Central European Bank were in a position to "pull the others along".

Diplomats said Chancellor Kohl of West Germany and Mrs Thatcher would meet at Chequers at the end of next week. The meeting would focus on Anglo-German relations, officials said.

MPs' alarm at secrets reform

By Michael Evans and Philip Webster

The Government is braced for a major assault on its new tough proposals for reforming Section 2 of the Official Secrets Act, which are to be published in a White Paper today.

Both Conservative and Labour MPs were already lining up last night to denounce the conclusions of the review of the 1911 Act which they believe will make the new law too restrictive. The main focus of concern was the possibility that ministers would be given sole power to decide whether certain information, if published, would be damaging to the security of the state.

Mr Richard Shepherd, the Tory MP whose own attempt to reform the Act in a Private Members' Bill failed earlier this year despite a huge backbench Conservative revolt, said it would be a "highly controversial" issue if the Government had decided against having any form of independent review body to assess national security questions. In his Bill he had proposed a judicial committee of privy counsellors.

Yesterday, according to some sources, Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary,

had had to give way to the Prime Minister on this key question. It was claimed that Mr Hurd wanted to have a separate body to which Civil Servants accused of passing on sensitive information could appeal.

The Government's attempt to reform the law in 1979 foundered on the issue of "ministerial certificates" when it was realized that ministers could have prevented reporting of the exposure of Anthony Blunt as a Soviet spy.

However, Mr Hurd made it clear when the review of the Act began last year that he wanted the new legislation to be acceptable to the general public. Mr Hurd has been warned that it would not be acceptable for ministers to have the authority to act as judge and jury.

Sources indicated yesterday that today's White Paper could offer concessions.

The White Paper is expected to rule out the so-called "defence of iniquity" under which disclosures could be made in the public interest.

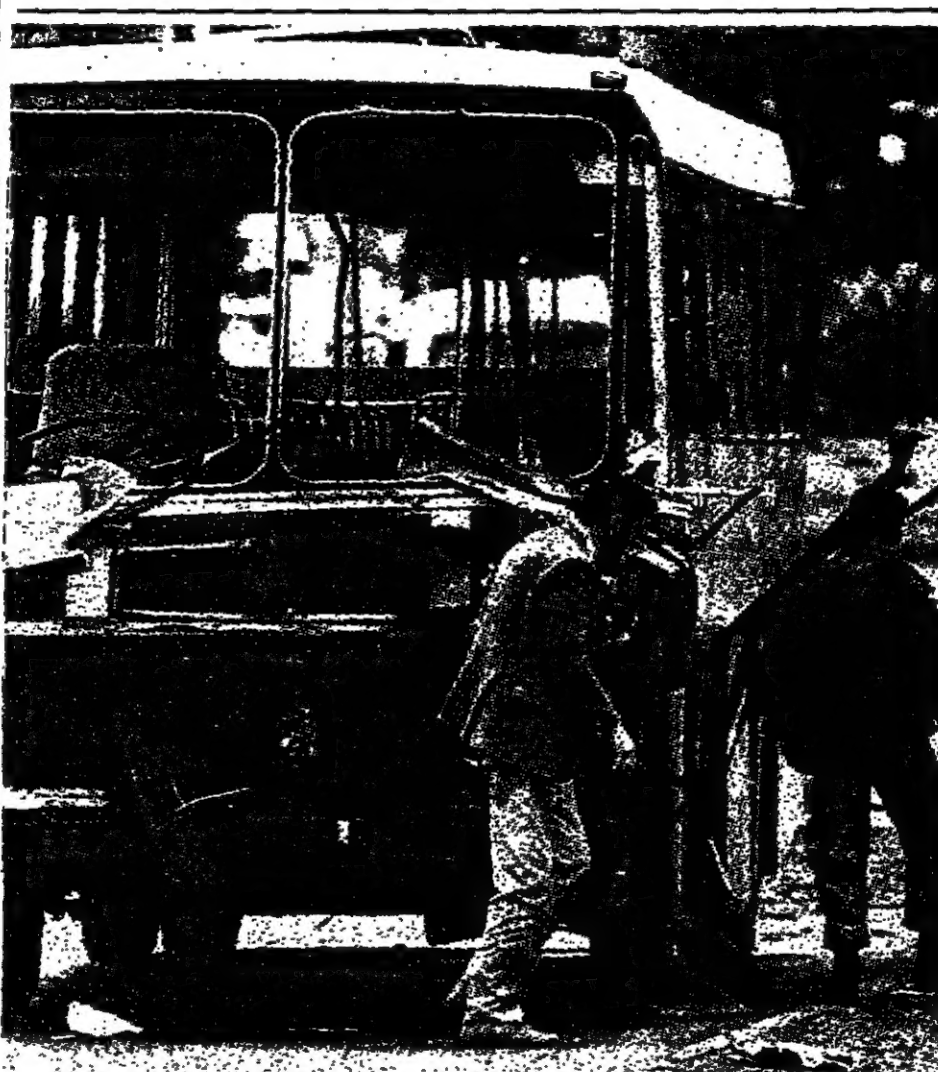
It is also expected to reject the defence proposed in the Shepherd Bill of prior publica-

tion. That would have allowed the media to publish information in Mr Peter Wright's *Spycatcher* book because it had already appeared elsewhere.

The White Paper will lay out the basic guidelines for prosecution under a reformed Section 2. The disclosure of information will be divided into three categories. Routine government information, which now falls under the all-embracing Act, will cease to be classified. Sensitive material which is not regarded as potentially damaging to the country's security will, if leaked, be dealt with as a disciplinary matter, and only the most sensitive information, covering areas such as defence, intelligence, foreign policy and security, will be subject to criminal action if leaked by a civil servant.

The Government is fully aware that its plans to reform the Official Secrets Act will cause the biggest parliamentary headache in the next session, because the proposed new Section 2 will be much tougher and more restrictive in the areas regarded as vital to national security.

Girls hurt after IRA bombs school bus



A soldier and forensic expert examine the tangled wreckage of the bus in Lisnaskea.

Politicians condemn 'outrage'

By Paul Valley

The Provisional IRA yesterday admitted planting a bomb in a school bus in Lisnaskea. Five girls and the driver, a part-time member of the Ulster Defence Regiment, were injured in the blast.

A statement said the IRA would hold an inquiry into how a civilian was "regrettably injured". The explosion is seen as the latest in a series of embarrassing propaganda blunders by a unit in South Fermanagh, including the Enniskillen Remembrance Day bombing and the March killing of a farmer's daughter, mistaken for a part-time member of the security forces.

There were 12 schoolgirls on board the bus bound for the Catholic and Protestant grammar schools in nearby Enniskillen. Of the five injured, one was seriously ill in an intensive care ward at a Belfast hospital last night.

While the schools themselves are divided along sectarian lines, the buses that take them there are not. Lisnaskea residents have long boasted that their town is a model of how Protestants and Catholics can live together.

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WIN £102,000

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator

● The £4,000 daily prize was claimed yesterday (see page 3) so the Portfolio Accumulator fund stands at £102,000. Prices: page 31

INSIDE

● The streets of Beverly Hills are not paved with gold, but virtually everything else is. Now the world's richest suburb is celebrating 75 years of existence. Full story: page 12

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Markets convinced of more increases

Fourth rise in interest rates

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, yesterday ordered the fourth increase in base rates this month. But by limiting it to half a point he left the financial markets convinced that more rises are on the way.

The Prime Minister, in Hanover for the European Community summit, said: "The main reason for the rise is to make it quite clear that our overall objective of putting downward pressure on inflation remains and will be honoured."

Mrs Thatcher conceded that the May trade figures, released on Monday, which showed a £12 billion current account deficit, were "deeply disappointing".

The base rate rose from 9 to 9.5 per cent continued a sequence which began when, with base rates at 7.5 per cent, sentiment towards the pound shifted abruptly.

But City analysts believe the increase will not have the desired effect of cooling the

economy unless mortgage rates increase. And building societies said they had no plans for an immediate rise.

The Chancellor's decision to raise rates by only half a point was regarded as timid and an insufficient response to the upward pressures on inflation and the widening current

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account deficit. More rises are forecast over the next few weeks, taking rates to 11 or 12 per cent.

Treasury officials said that the limitation was to retain flexibility, and that it did not reflect concern over the size of the current account deficit.

Mr Bill Martin, economist at Phillips & Drew, the broker, said: "The authorities are trying to give the appearance of control but it is really a case of controlled panic."

The Halifax and the Abbey National, Britain's biggest

building societies, said they were in no hurry to raise mortgage rates. They cited the strength of cash inflows into branches.

The societies have, in any case, missed the deadline for a July 1 increase, and have a number of weeks to assess the position for August 1. If base rates rise to 10 per cent before then, mortgage rates are likely to rise from their present 9.75 per cent level to around 11 per cent. But if base rates stay at 9.5 per cent a mortgage rate increase could yet be avoided, limited to 0.5 or 0.75 of a percentage point.

Shares rose strongly, with dealers relieved that the base rate increase was limited. The FT-SE 100 index gained 15.4 points to 1,856.9.

The pound was helped by a bout of central bank intervention against the dollar, as well as the base rate rise. It rose by 1.95 cents to \$1.7215, and by 1.5 pence to DM3.1082.

Kinnock to assail critics of change

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Neil Kinnock will today launch his fightback after three weeks of Labour Party turmoil with an explicit attack on his critics inside the Labour movement.

In a stark message to his opponents he will warn that Labour cannot defeat Thatcherism unless it is prepared to moderate its image and appeal. And he will stake his leadership on the policy review which was set in motion by last year's party conference, but which has since led to bitter assaults on him from the left.

Mr Kinnock has chosen his address to the annual conference of the National Union of Mineworkers in Great Yarmouth to try to lift his leadership out of its present crisis.

Sitting alongside him will be Mr Arthur Scargill, one of his most vituperative critics, who on Monday called Mr Ki-

nnock's new realism a malignancy.

The tension already surrounding today's encounter heightened sharply yesterday when Mr Kinnock made a furious attack on Mr Scargill, saying that he was "disgusted" by his remarks the day before praising two miners jailed for the man-

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slaughter of a taxi driver during the year-long pit strike. Having dealt with that issue yesterday, Mr Kinnock will today concentrate his assault on Mr Scargill and his hard left colleagues on their opposition to change.

He will again leave no doubt that he sees his inevitable reelection in September as backing for the rethink of policies. And he will point out to the left, who regularly

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Freak chain of events leave 59 dead in Paris

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

As the death toll in the Gare de Lyon train disaster reached 59 yesterday, with 13 other passengers still in hospital, it became clear that the capital's worst railway accident resulted from a freak chain of circumstances.

Preliminary investigations have now established that the rush-hour train which hurtled into the underground level of the vast terminus and struck the rear of another waiting at the platform, had lost braking power after an earlier emergency stop when a passenger activated the alarm system.

According to M Philippe Rouvillois, the president of the Société Nationale des Chemins de Fers

Français (SNCF), there is a link between that unscheduled halt and the catastrophe.

At a crowded press conference yesterday, he declined to speculate on the precise cause of the brake failure, which is already being examined by a commission of inquiry appointed by the French Government.

But the detailed timetable to disaster M Rouvillois set out provides a chilling outline of the tragedy.

The eight-carriage train, originating at Melun, that sped through a red light outside the Gare de Lyon at about 40 mph, had been delayed by 26 minutes when someone on board activated the emergency brake at the suburban station of Vert de Maisons, five miles from Paris.

Until that moment, it had been

right on schedule in halts at 15 other stations. The SNCF president said that its driver, M Daniel Sautin, aged 43, who escaped with light injuries, had had problems reactivating the main pneumatic braking system that was automatically engaged when an alarm handle was pulled.

The driver had walked back through the train to find the carriage where the handle had been pulled, causing the pneumatic braking system to depressurize. He had worked on the system for almost half an hour before satisfying himself that it was again functional.

That delay quickly had an immediate ripple effect on other peak-hour traffic, including the other train in the collision, which was preparing to pull

out of Platform 2b at Gare de Lyon, bound for Melun, several minutes late.

The delay had allowed a larger than normal rush-hour crowd to build up on the platform.

The speed of the incoming train was increased by the steep downward slope to the platforms at the Gare de Lyon, causing it to ride up over the last carriage of the stationary train, which contained a first-class compartment. Most of those killed were in that carriage.

About a mile from the station, travelling at 56 mph, the driver of the incoming train had warned the main points control centre by radio that he could not control his speed. With

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Bondage hallmark ensnared multiple rapist, court told

By Mark Ellis

A multiple rapist who subjected his victims to bondage while he carried out serious sexual assaults on nine women was married to a serving policeman, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

The alleged attacker, aged 23, was nicknamed "The Putney Rapist" but, in spite of being arrested twice, he was freed because of a lack of evidence and captured only after being identified by the last of his rape victims.

All but one of the victims were gagged and had their hands tied behind their backs during late night attacks after being stalked from behind and taken to wasteland or dark alleyways where the assaults took place.

Police connected the attacks after victims described the rapist as black, bespectacled, 6ft tall, and slim. He always untied his victims after the assaults.

In three of the rapes, semen samples examined on the victims' underwear matched the group of the accused. It was described as being common to only 1 in 300 of the Afro-Caribbean population.

The jury of eight women and four men were warned by Mr Graham Boal, for the prosecution, that details of the attacks between January 1986

and May 1987 would be gruesome.

The accused man denies seven rapes, one attempted rape and one indecent assault.

Mr Boal said: "He seems to have derived some perverted thrill from tying his victims up by the arms and sometimes the legs and the Crown says bondage was his hallmark."

"He almost always approached from behind and put a hand over her mouth. On each occasion he used words which suggested he had a knife. He always pushed, pulled or dragged his victims to a secluded spot either an alleyway or deserted common land."

During his 16-month series of attacks, it is alleged he prowled in his wife's car in search of young women walking alone.

Mr Boal said: "One of the ironies of this case is that the girl he married is a serving woman police constable in the Metropolitan Police."

The accused took "remarkably circuitous routes" around streets of south-west London and was kept under regular police surveillance when he was suspected of being the culprit.

Mr Boal said seven pieces of evidence supported "up to the hilt" the claim that the accused was the man identified

by his last victim as the rapist.

A pair of jeans the accused is alleged to have worn on the night of his last attack showed traces of semen where he is alleged to have wiped his hands, his semen was found on white leggings worn by his victim, fibres matching those from his underwear were found on her clothing.

Other fibres were also matched.

On the night of the rape his house was under observation and he arrived home 15 minutes after the midnight attack.

The court was told how his first victim, aged 23, was returning home after a night out with friends when a man put his hand over her mouth and said: "I'll slit your throat if you scream."

She was bound, gagged and raped three times before he untied her and ran off.

His alleged second victim was described as a girl who put up a struggle before he attacked her. She did not report the attempted rape for nearly a year.

A young woman aged 23 who left her boyfriend after an argument was walking the 10 miles home when she was stopped and raped four times in an alleyway after being bound and gagged.

The case goes on today.

SAS-style trek led woman to hotel job

By John Spicer
Employment Affairs
Correspondent

Sally Pearce landed her job as a hotel receptionist thanks to a 26-week period of SAS-style character training which led her to write in her diary on five successive mornings: "Oh God, I've woken up again to face another day."

The words were written when she was ill with food poisoning during a gruelling drive from Delhi to Nepal which began after she filled in a form at a Jobcentre after nine months of unemployment.

That led her to take part in a pilot scheme for a privately funded programme to boost the character and initiative of young jobless people between the ages of 18 and 24. It was officially launched yesterday by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Employment.

According to Miss Pearce, aged 24, from Hounslow, west London, the six-month course was a success. "I came out of it a different person", she said. From being afraid of potential employers and lacking in confidence about job prospects she says her attitude changed to such an extent that "employers don't stand a chance when I walk in".

Now the organizers of the scheme - called Drive for Youth - are recruiting 100 more young unemployed people and the scheme will soon be extended to take on more than a thousand young people a year.

Organizers of Drive for Youth spend a week at the end of the six-month course assessing the changes in each recruit.

All 24 young people on the pilot scheme, one of whom had been out of work for five years, found jobs after the course without trouble.

Shell award for eggholder



Mr Nicholas Munro, aged 25, of Chester, was named Britain's top young entrepreneur yesterday for building up a business based on his design for a silver spring egg-holder. He received £3,000 and the Livewire UK award, sponsored by Shell. (Photograph: James Gray).

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator Hackett's wife wins

Lady Hackett, wife of the wartime hero General Sir John Hackett, was the sole winner of yesterday's daily portfolio prize of £4,000. Lady Hackett will spend some of her winnings on a two week holiday on Speyside, Scotland. She intends to use the rest to pay for renovations to an ancient stone wall at their home near Cheltenham in Gloucestershire.

Sir John was wounded three times during the second World War in campaigns ranging from Syria in 1941 to the battle of Arnhem in 1944.

Marriages 'last longer' in Leicester

By David Walker

Couples with marriage difficulties should head for Leicester because the East Midlands has the lowest divorce rate in England and Wales, according to the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys.

There the divorce rate is one fifth lower than that for England and Wales and it is 26 per cent lower than the region with the rockiest marriages, the South-west.

Across England and Wales some 13.4 people out of every 1,000 who are married get divorced. The other worst regions are Yorkshire and Humberside, East Anglia, the South-east and the North-west.

Marriages appear to be safer in the North, West Midlands, Wales and the East Midlands where the divorce rate is 10.3 per 1,000 compared with 13.6 per 1,000 in the South-west. *Population Trends 52: Summer 1988 (Stationery Office: £5).*

The fight against vandalism

Hurd urges action on drink

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs
Correspondent

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, yesterday recommended tougher action by police and courts against misuse of alcohol by young drinkers looking for excitement.

He called for strong use of the stiffer law just passed against under-age drinking and he reminded magistrates they had the ultimate sanction of removing licences if drink was sold in a way that could lead to serious trouble.

Mr Hurd, who was opening a conference in London on vandalism, was referring to the new licensing Act expected to come into force by the end of next month. The Act makes it easier to prosecute licensees who serve alcohol to people under the age of 18.

The onus is on the licensee to prove either that he exercised due diligence in preventing an offence or that he had no reason to suspect that the person served was under 18.

Mr Hurd said "stupid drinking" raised expectations of excitement. Probably television helped also to arouse such expectations without satisfying them.

"We are dealing with a sense of boredom - with expectations of excitement which the individual concerned seems incapable of satisfying, except by doing harm to someone else or his surroundings", Mr Hurd said.

Last year almost 60,000 people were cautioned or sentenced for causing criminal damage in England and Wales. More than half of them were aged under 21 and more than 4,000 were aged between 10 and 13.

Mr Hurd said he believed

The Foreign Office yesterday launched a series of short films warning travellers of the dangers they face on holiday.

The films, tackling such subjects as drink, drugs and insurance, cost £150,000 to make and may be shown on planes and ships.

Mr Timothy Eggar, Parliamentary Under Secretary for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said 27 million Britons travelled overseas last year. Those in jail has risen from 1,400 in December to 1,900 this month.

the prosecuting authorities and magistrates on the whole had ample powers and the Public Order Act, 1986, created a new offence of disorderly conduct.

Sensibly used, the offence could act as a deterrent to much of the noise and minor brawling which could lead to vandalism.

The conference was organized by the television company TVS in association with British Telecom. Mr Andy Green, general manager of British Telecom's national payphone services, said vandalism cost British Telecom some £18 million last year. That figure represented the replacing of damaged equipment and the labour needed to do so. In addition another £18 million was probably lost because payphones were out of order.

On average, every payphone in the country would be attacked four times a year; a total of 300,000 separate incidents of vandalism.

Research showed that vandals often started their careers at the age of 10 or even younger. The payphone was considered to be a symbol of

authority and public property and therefore an attractive target. Many teenagers interviewed took the view that public bodies had plenty of money and could easily replace damaged property.

An "Adopt a Box" scheme was already in action in some British Telecom districts. "We asked community groups to literally 'adopt' a payphone, to check it regularly and report to us when there are any faults."

Mr Ian McGregor, assistant chief constable, British Transport Police, said that physical damage reported to them in 1987 amounted to £3,723,000. Many of the 370 people who trespassed on railways during 1987 and died were engaged in vandalism, he said.

But the 10,809 offences of criminal damage reported to the force in 1987 represented a decrease of 25 per cent.

There has been a big emphasis on crime prevention, Mr McGregor said, and joint action by management, workers, commercial customers, passengers and community.

Every year British Transport Police talk to about 500,000 children warning them of the dangers of trespassing on the railways.

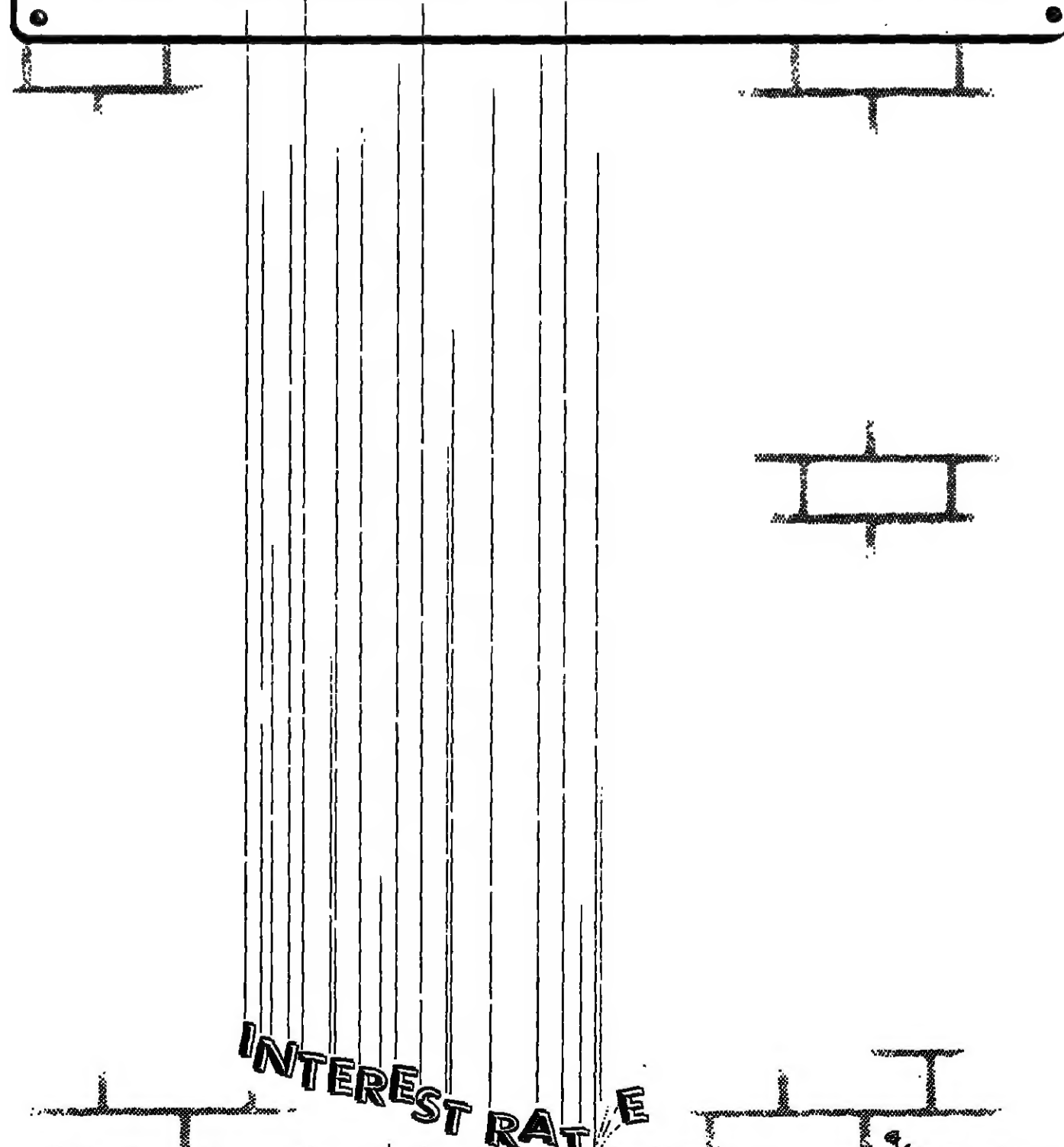
● A drinking party to mark the end of exams for 15 teenagers ended in a police station at Llandudno, Gwynedd. One boy was so drunk he had to be taken to hospital.

The rest of the teenagers were given a ticking off before their parents were asked to collect them.

● Police yesterday appealed for help in tracking down gangs of drunken youths who clashed in Mansfield, Nottinghamshire.

Four men were arrested after two doormen were hurled through plate glass windows at a public house.

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Big vote for satellite TV

By Robert Matthews, Technology Correspondent

The public is as keen to invest in satellite television equipment as it was to buy home video machines, according to a new market survey.

The survey of almost 1,000 adults, to be published next week, was carried out by Marketing Direction, a market research company, and Gallup, a week after Mr Rupert Murdoch, chief executive of the News Corporation, announced plans for four free UK satellite television channels early next year.

It shows that two out of five people now aware of the possibility of satellite tele-

vision are at least quite likely to install a dish and tuner.

Mr Paul Greenhalgh, author of the report, said yesterday that so large a level of interest could be taken as a very encouraging sign for the industry. It was similar to the amount of interest shown by the public in video machines in the early 1980s, a form of entertainment technology now virtually ubiquitous, Mr Greenhalgh said.

Mr Murdoch's Sky Channel is by far the most well-known of the satellite channels, according to the survey, with almost a third of those who

have heard about satellite television believing that they can now receive broadcasts from the network.

The announcement by Mr Alan Sugar, chairman of Amstrad, that his company would be making 2 ft-diameter satellite dishes and receiving equipment for £199, appears to have had an effect on the interest in the new venture, Mr Greenhalgh said.

However, more than half believes wrongly that they will have to pay.

Trends in consumer awareness of satellite television (Marketing Direction and Gallup: £350).

Prince bids porter farewell

By Robin Young

The Prince of Wales yesterday paid a retirement tribute to the college porter who was national attention by ordering him to get off his bike.

Mr George Hales, the longest serving porter in Cambridge, officially retired as head porter of Trinity College on Monday.

Mr Hales, as he was strictly addressed by Trinity's 800 undergraduates, was often unkindly and inaccurately credited with being the original of Skellion, the head porter in Tom Sharpe's *Porterhouse Blue*, seen on television last year. But Mr Hales prefers to

think that Sharpe's model might have been his former neighbour, the late Bob Fuller, known as "the Beast of St John's".

In his letter, the Prince, whom Mr Hales caught riding a bicycle in college and promptly ordered off, wrote: "This will be a sad day for the college, because I know how much dedicated and selfless service you have given to Trinity over the past 27 years. Much of it spent no doubt in apprehending miscreants like myself who were doing something frightful on the college premises."

The royal misdeeds were slight compared with some which Mr Hales had to tolerate. On one occasion a fusillade of flashing lights all over Great Court had porters rushing to find firefighting equipment while undergraduates used the diversion to fill the neighbouring court with furniture.

Unlike Skellion, who ended as Master of Porterhouse, Mr Hales harbours no hopes of academic preferment. He is happy that he and his wife were guests at this year's May Ball where before he would have been on security duty.

MPs seek defence review because of 'low' naval strength

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Pressure for a comprehensive defence review intensified yesterday when a leading Commons committee described the Royal Navy's surface fleet as overstretched, under-strength, increasingly outdated and scarcely able to meet peacetime commitments.

The Tory-controlled defence select committee said in a damning report published yesterday that the Government's declared aim of maintaining a surface fleet of about fifty warships was highly questionable.

It disclosed that on June 10, the figure was 47, and that at any time, up to a third of those ships could be out of action.

The MPs said the naval commitment was being fulfilled only by extending the lives of ageing ships, even though that meant lower capability, more maintenance and reduced availability.

The case for investing in a modern surface fleet was compelling, but the Government would have to order two or three new warships a year until 1994 to achieve that.

If it did not, the Navy would be unable to perform all its peacetime tasks, and would be too weak for the wartime roles assigned to it by Nato, the MPs said.

They accused the Ministry of Defence of having quietly abandoned the approach set out in the 1981 White Paper *The UK Defence Programme: The Way Forward*, the last defence review.

It had not been replaced by any coherent long-term plan for the Navy. Instead, the ministry was open to the charge that it was conducting a "defence review by stealth". If

the money was not available to meet all Britain's competing defence demands, then it was time for a formal defence review to be set in hand, the MPs insisted.

The call for a defence review was echoed by Mr Martin O'Neill, the shadow Secretary of State for Defence, who described the report as a "damning indictment of the Government's failure to support the Royal Navy".

He said: "The report says the estimated cost of repairing the damage is said to be £7.5 billion over the next 10 years. If this is to be achieved, other areas of our defence would have to suffer. The case for an overall defence review is unanswerable."

The report said that even in peacetime, the Navy no longer had the assets to meet all operational requirements. One consequence was that it was participating in fewer and fewer Nato exercises.

In wartime, when top priority would be given to preventing Soviet maritime forces reaching the Atlantic by containing them in the Norwegian Sea, there would be limited resources remaining for other vital tasks, including protection of merchant shipping.

The report said the commitment to retain about fifty warships was being fulfilled only by retaining older vessels such as Leanders and Type 21 frigates, and of 34 ships listed in the 1987 Statement on Defence Estimates, at least 18 were not fully available throughout the year.

The MPs concluded that the commitment could in practice mean "as few as 45" ships. In spite of the intention in 1981

to accelerate orders for the new Type 23 frigate, only four had been ordered so far.

Tenders had been invited for four more. Since 1982, only 10 new ships had been ordered in total, of which four were Falklands replacements.

Over the next decade, 25 frigates would have to be withdrawn from service, which meant 17 vessels would have to be ordered by 1994.

The report also said uncertainty over orders was playing havoc with shipbuilders. The ministry's practice of giving broad indications of future orders was "an extraordinarily poor second to actually ordering ships".

On manpower, the committee noted there had been a reduction of 8,700 sailors since 1981. Officers and ratings spent more time at sea, a key factor in their seeking early release from the Navy.

Ministry of Defence sources rejected the committee's call for a defence review yesterday and said the Government's commitment to retaining about fifty frigates and destroyers was being maintained.

They said there was currently a warship building programme worth £4 billion, which would be added to soon with the announcement of more Type 23 frigates.

The Royal Navy, they added, did not consist solely of frigates and destroyers. Its total strength, including three aircraft carriers and 30 submarines, was nearly 200 ships.

Defence Committee: The Future Size and Role of the Royal Navy's Surface Fleet (Stationary Office, £12.70).

Boxing clever is the height of fashion



Top notch: a clutch of miniature hat boxes with rose (to order) and (right) a shocking pink 1920s-style turban with folded felt plume trimmed in purple corded ribbon at £200 from Somerville's salon in central London (Photographs: Harry Kerr).

Get ahead with a hat box was the message when Philip Somerville, a favourite milliner of the Princess of Wales, launched his autumn/winter collection in London yesterday.

Hats on display included those made from a clutch of miniature hat boxes or larger single boxes with roses peeping out from under the lid. On a more serious note inspiration came from across the centuries with hats from "The Last Emperor", and the Ottoman Empire as well as the 1920s, 30s and 40s.

The predominant look is for hats worn close to the back of the head. Innovative use of felt has produced fluid shapes, for example confections swirled into a point like whipped cream and pillboxes brimming with roses.

The turban featured prominently as did the snood, recently worn by The Princess of Wales with a matador hat and a style favoured by Somerville because of its versatility. It can be topped by many different hats or popped into a handbag.

Colours are strong with red making the biggest splash, although shocking pink and blue, contrasted with a black trim, are also prominent. For evening, extravagant feathers mixed with jewels were on show.

Pupil barristers seeking a fairer deal

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

A new system aimed at helping pupil barristers to gain places in chambers is being considered by the Bar. It would resemble the one operated by universities to match potential students with available places.

The present system has been described as random, wasteful and "nasty" and young barristers have com-

plained of the way they are treated. The Bar's professional standards committee has recently received "disquieting reports" about the treatment given to some candidates.

According to Mr Henry Brooke, QC, the committee chairman, several student officers of the Inns of Court had said they had received reports of candidates being treated "very cavalierly at their interviews in some sets of provincial chambers". In the latest

Bar newsletter, he says: "Candidates who are black or female feel particularly sensitive if they feel they have not been fairly treated".

At the Bar conference last autumn, strong criticism of the system also came from Lady Marre, whose committee on the future of the legal profession will report soon.

She said the present system of controlling numbers to the Bar "through natural selection

and wastage" was "nasty", and it was "extremely stressful to students" and "extremely uneconomic". She said the Bar should choose fewer candidates and select them better.

A Bar working party under Mr David Latham, QC, has been looking at ways to improve training.

Chambers are being urged to provide a minimum guaranteed sum of £5,000 a year for pupil barristers.

Fiend gets life for sex attacks

A man who began a series of sexual assaults within a week of being released from prison for an indecent attack on a young girl was jailed for life at Birmingham Crown Court yesterday.

Daniel Jones, aged 30, of Hyton, Merseyside, admitted rape, 10 charges of indecent assault and one of burglary last year.

Mr Justice Hazan told Jones he was a continuing danger to society who had shattered the lives of a great number of families.

Earlier, the court was told how Jones had sexually assaulted five young girls between the ages of eight and 14 years at knife-point in one month in the Liverpool area. He also attacked two women aged 86 and 87.

During the trial Jones blamed an "alien personality" for his actions. He said he had become a "depraved fiend".

The judge ordered a transcript of the case to be sent to the Home Office to prevent the possibility of an early release, and sentenced Jones to 14 years' jail.

Murder case

Mark Wright, aged 23, and Edward Zammit, aged 21, of north-east London were remanded in custody until July 26 by Highbury magistrates yesterday, accused of murdering Mr Brian Cooper in Holloway on Sunday.

Thatcher visit

The Prime Minister is to make her third visit to Australia from August 1 to 6 to mark the bicentenary of the British settling there.

Steam trip

The locomotive Mallard, which set the world steam speed record of 126mph 50 years ago, is to mark the anniversary by hauling a train from Doncaster to York and Scarborough on Sunday.

Injury award

A pillion passenger disabled in a motor cycle accident in 1982 won £175,000 damages in the High Court yesterday. The driver of the motor cycle, who denied liability, agreed to pay the damages to Mr Neville Steele, aged 28, of Lower Heyford, Oxfordshire.

Pipeline plea

The Snowdonia National Park Authority has asked the Central Electricity Generating Board to delay construction of a replacement pipeline, off high and more than a mile long, near Cwm Dyli hydro-electric power station until a landscape restoration scheme is agreed.

Pupils 'are bored into disruption'

By Our Education Staff

Teachers are boring pupils into disruptive behaviour in the classroom because they lack the resources to provide an attractive curriculum, the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers says.

Besides social factors, the shortage of resources and the low morale of over-worked teachers are among the chief causes of school disruption, the union says.

It blames the Government for undermining the status of the teacher, and criticizes Britain's "selfish society", in which the young tend to imitate the actions of aggressive individualists.

The union wants suspended pupils to be allowed back to school only after their parents have signed a "contract of good behaviour" and only with the agreement of the head, governors and teachers.

In its submission to the Government inquiry into school discipline set up in March by Mr Kenneth Baker, the Secretary of State for Education, the union says features of the Education Reform Bill could make discipline more of a problem.

"A desire by teachers to make syllabuses more attractive to pupils is often frustrated by lack of resources. The position can only get worse following the introduction of a prescriptive national curriculum", it says.

It adds that many head teachers are under intense pressure to ignore disciplinary problems, because schools with poor disciplinary records will be unable to compete in the market place once the Bill becomes law.

Millions of pounds spent on research to benefit children is largely wasted, and as a result countless children are suffering, some even dying, Dr Ronald Davie, director of the National Children's Bureau, said yesterday.

He told the bureau's twenty-fifth anniversary conference

in Manchester that research was mostly left to gather dust on shelves instead of being implemented.

As a result, steps that might save children from cruelty and deprivation were not taken, and in extreme cases this could lead to death.

"Apart from an enormous waste of publicly funded research, there is a generation of children and families who fail to get the benefits or protection which the effective use of new knowledge could bring."

The Government is not prepared to sacrifice standards in order to streamline A level syllabuses, Mr Robert Jackson, Under-Secretary of State for Education, said yesterday.

He told a conference of sixth-form teachers and educationists at Kent University, Canterbury, that the new AS level examinations would play wider sixth-form studies, but not at the cost of sacrificing standards.

He said the Government agreed that there was a need to broaden the curriculum, but it could not accept proposals to reduce the time spent on A levels, so reducing their factual content.

About 15 per cent of schools offering A levels are now providing AS courses for 6,500 students. The Government expects the figure to rise to 95 per cent by 1990.

British schools fail to educate children who find learning difficult, concentrating on those who were easy to teach, Sir Peter Newsam, a former head of the Inner London Education Authority, said yesterday.

Sir Peter, now secretary of the Association of County Councils, said that since the war, the country had failed to translate the theory of education into practice.

"Particular victims of this phenomenon include the under-fives, those with disabilities and the whole 16-plus age group", he said.

Shoddy garage workmanship

By Rosemary Unsworth, Retail Affairs Correspondent

Consumer watchdogs are increasingly refusing to let their own cars be used to test garage servicing standards because they do not want them subjected to poor workmanship.

"The prospect of a free service 'on the rates' is insufficient to persuade them to allow their vehicles to be subjected to poor and shoddy workmanship", Mr Steve Delahaye, principal fair trading officer for Gwent, told delegates at the annual conference of trading standards officers in Scarborough yesterday.

He was a victim of such garage servicing himself when he discovered that only

five of 18 identified tasks had been carried out on his car. The garage was fined £538 and costs.

Officers want legislation changed, because the Trade Descriptions Act hampers them in pursuing prosecutions as it requires the local authority to prove guilt.

Mr Delahaye said that about 11,000 motorists took legal action each year against garages, but that figure represented a fraction of those entitled to complain.

He said the United States had taken legislative action to redress the balance between consumers and the motor trade, including the intro-

duction of "Lemon Laws" enabling buyers to get refunds from motor manufacturers if products developed serious defects within a year or two.

He said every used car should have a pre-sales inspection report and a national mileage database should be established by the Government to provide information to consumers, traders and enforcement agencies.

Trading standards officers in Bracknell, Berkshire, told owners of a sublimated "Little Wonder Super Sub-technic Filtrason" made by SBC Corporation that they want checked for safety after one started to smoke.

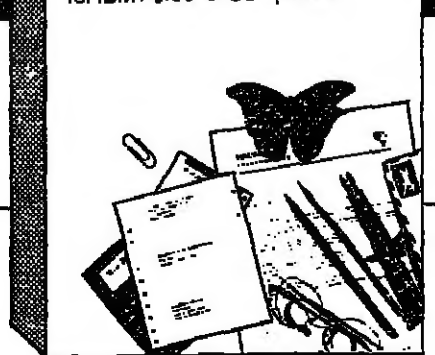
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Cleveland controversy

Priest quits church to aid families

By Peter Davenport

A priest working with families caught up in the Cleveland child sexual abuse crisis is resigning from his parish to devote more time to counselling.

A year after the crisis, some families are still waiting for their children to be allowed home. Those who have rejoined their parents have regular nightmares, and the stresses of the affair have led to at least four couples separating.

The Rev Michael Wright, part-time priest in charge of St. Cuthbert's Church in Middlesbrough, has been closely involved with 26 families comprising the Cleveland Parents Support Group. Of their 62 children, all but five were alleged to have been sexually abused.

Yesterday he said: "I am resigning from my post as part-time priest at the end of July to give me more time to work with these families."

"It has been impossible this year, working on my own and focusing on individual cases, to get people together on a regular basis for therapy. That will be needed in some cases for the next couple of years."

"In some cases, the problems are only now being identified. The return of their children is not the end of the problem, but the beginning of new ones."

"Many have gained support from each other by sharing experiences and focusing on legal action. Since the end of the inquiry in January, the after-effects on individuals are becoming clearer."

Many of the parents in the group, who had always protested their innocence, had become distrustful and reserved about contact with social services and established caring agencies, he said.

"If, in spite of being cleared, they sense that the social worker they worked with still

believes the children were abused, there is no way that family can find therapy with that person."

Mr Wright highlighted some of the problems experienced by children who had returned to their families, sometimes after many months in care because of a diagnosis of sexual abuse by Dr Marietta Higgs or her fellow consultant paediatrician, Dr Geoffrey Wyatt.

He said children aged between three and 13 had nightmares about leaving their parents and others had hysterics about going anywhere near the Middlesbrough General Hospital, where they were initially examined last year.

One boy, taken to hospital for stitches after being injured on holiday, ran away when he misheard the name of the doctor who was to treat him, and thought it was Dr Wyatt, Mr Wright said. Other children were teased by friends and school colleagues.

At least four couples had separated because of the pressures caused by the diagnoses; often the suspicion that the husband was the abuser, no matter that it was false, added unbearable stresses and strains to family relationships.

Mr Wright said the families would be helped if doctors and social workers admitted acting incorrectly.

The report by Lord Justice Butler-Sloss into the events in Cleveland last year is to be published next week.

Mrs Judy Parry, of Manchester Childwatch, will present 100 books on child sexual abuse and 20 films to Manchester Central Library today. "Only by increased public awareness and proper professional training can the fiasco of over-zealousness that is the Cleveland affair be avoided in the future," she said yesterday.

Countering abuse, page 13

Christie's catches Russian art fever

Christie's, not to be outdone by Sotheby's, which is to hold a sale in Moscow next Thursday, has announced its own auction of Russian art on October 7.

Whereas Sotheby's will concentrate on contemporary art produced in the Soviet Union, the Christie's sale in London will offer arguably higher-quality artworks from the eighteenth to early twentieth centuries, gathered from collections in Europe and America.

There will be empire furniture, including a St Petersburg ormolu clock by Wehl and Brocot; imperial portrait miniatures; works from the revolutionary period such as Malevich's rare lithographic book, *Suprematism: 34 Risunki*; and paintings by Rodchenko, El Lissitzky and Gontcharova.

Sotheby's London completed a highly successful 750-lot print sale yesterday, with a total of about £3 million. Top lot, at £198,000, was a woodcut of an Alpine winter landscape by Ernst Ludwig Kirchner.

Japanese buyers were much in evidence, one paying £116,000 (estimate £50,000 to £70,000) for an album of aquatints showing domestic cats by Tsuguharu Foujita, a Japanese artist who worked in Paris from 1913.

A set of 42 lithographs published in 1961 by Marc

SALEROOM

by Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market
Correspondent

Chagall, featuring his trademark of "floating" people, sold for £165,000 against an upper estimate of £150,000 to another Japanese private buyer.

Prices slowed down at Christie's lesser Impressionist sale in London yesterday, after a series of records on Monday night. "Deux Femmes" by Marie Laurencin, a favourite with the Japanese, sold anonymously for £220,000 against an estimate of £100,000 to £150,000, while Chaim Soutine's "Maisons derriere les Arbres" fetched double its upper estimate at £187,000 to a telephone buyer.

Christie's tribal art sale was bereft of its prize collection of human heads yesterday, after the recent controversy surrounding Bonhams's proposed sale of a Maori head.

There was one good price, £46,200 (upper estimate £30,000) for an enameled wooden figure found on Easter Island by George Harvey, a gunner on the ship that landed there in 1868. It was bought by Entwistle of Bond Street.

Sotheby's two-day sale of the contents of *The Refectory*, near Godalming in Surrey, totalled £830,000.

National Theatre fears lower grant

By Andrew Billen

The team which is to run the National Theatre from September after the departure of Sir Peter Hall, the director, yesterday warned of a period of heightened financial uncertainty.

Mr Richard Eyre, the National's director designate, announcing an ambitious first-year programme, revealed that the Arts Council had this week refused to confirm a 2 per cent grant increase which the theatre believed it had been promised for the next two years.

Mr Eyre said: "We may find that we will get instead an increase of 1.3 per cent like last year, although we have drawn up our three-year budget on the understanding that we would get 2 per cent."

The question mark over the National's £7.9 million grant comes at a time of poor theatre attendance in London, he said.

The National needs average

Aukin interview, page 18

West Country beaches fly the clean Blue Flag

By John Young

On the day that the EEC awarded Paignton beach a coveted Blue Flag as one of the cleanest and safest in Europe, firemen cordoned it off after the discovery of toxic waste under the pier.

Firemen in protective suits and masks removed 11 glass phials of the chemical ethanethiol - one of them leaking poisonous vapour - which had been partially buried feet from where children were making sandcastles.

Seventeen British beaches, all but one of them on the south coast between the Solent and Cornwall, qualified for this year's awards, denoting that they meet stringent standards of cleanliness and safety.

Six of the beaches are in Torbay: Oddicombe, Anstey's Cove, Meadfoot, Corbyn, Paignton and Broadlands. The others are Crinnis and Porthmeor, in Cornwall; Blackpool Sands, near Dartmouth; Exmouth; Sidmouth; Weymouth; Poole; Bournemouth; Stokes Bay, near Portsmouth; Lee-on-Solent; and Penbury, in South Wales.

The number of awards is the same as last year, but the list differs because some of last year's winners failed to qualify this time. In most cases this was because the local authority had failed to implement a ban on dogs.

Professor Graham Ashworth, director general of the Tidy Britain Group, said yesterday that six other beaches - Bridlington north and south,



Southsea, Swanage, Lowestoft and Bexhill - could have obtained blue flags if bylaws banning dogs had been approved by the Home Office.

Only 31 entries were received from Britain's 180 coastal district authorities, although each of them was approached three times. Of those that were rejected, Brighton had too much litter, and Teignmouth and Weston-super-Mare failed to meet the EEC water quality directive.

Poor water quality was also thought to be the reason why no entries were received from the north west, a situation unlikely to be rectified until the completion of the £4,000 million programme to clean up the Mersey.

Mr Peter Hall, assistant secretary of the Water Authorities Association, which sponsors the campaign, said that almost 70 per cent of Britain's 360 beaches now complied with the EEC directive on water quality.

Apart from water quality, beaches had to be frequently used by large numbers of people and actively managed for recreation; safe for bathing in normal weather; free of industrial and sewage discharges, litter and oil pollution; and provided with sanitary facilities, first aid, lifeguards, lifesaving equipment and public telephones.

They must be regularly cleaned, equipped with litter bins and provide some form of public education programme on beach cleanliness. Among the more glowing tributes, Bournemouth's beach was described as one of the best in the country and an example of how a large resort with a high density of visitors could maintain standards.

Weymouth, another of Britain's busiest beaches, won an award for the second year running "only by a constant and relentless cleaning up behind its sometimes thoughtless patrons".



Blue for clean and red for danger. A team of Paignton firemen in protective clothing remove phials leaking poisonous fumes from the Torbay town's award-winning beach.

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Delegates to Moscow conference hear most radical challenge to party system since Stalin's heyday

Gorbachov outlines scheme for Soviet shake-up

From Mary Dejevsky
Moscow

Mr Mikhail Gorbachov was confident and businesslike when he addressed the national party conference yesterday. Dressed in a dark grey suit and patterned tie, he spoke fast and purposefully.

He was presenting delegates, although they did not appear to appreciate it, with the possibility of the biggest shake-up of the Soviet political system since Stalin centralized all administrative functions at the end of the 1920s. In addition, as many of the delegates may have realized, he was pitching at the heart of the system that had brought them to their positions of authority.

The proposals for a new legislature and the restructuring of local government are complex.

On the surface they look as though they are designed to cement the Communist Party's overriding authority. In practice, they could do the very opposite, by making the Communist Party both more remote from day-to-day gov-

ernment and also more accountable.

The reform that Mr Gorbachov set out has two aspects: at local level, he wants the heads of the Communist Party organizations to sit *ex-officio* as chairmen of the local soviet or government. At present it is an article of faith that the two positions should be held by different people. This is not true all the way through the ranks of the local party and government organizations; at the top, however, the separation of the functions is intended to embody the separation of party and government powers.

In reality, this is not what happens. The party first secretary has the final power. He — very occasionally, she — can block decisions made by the local soviet and determine appointments.

The local party organization also has the last word on appointments to most other local offices, including the police and the judiciary. In addition, they can intervene in economic management. This is how local, regional and republic first secretaries have

been able to build up fiefdoms for themselves.

The idea of making the chairman of the soviet and the party first secretary the same person is to stop the party overriding local government decisions or professing ignorance of local priorities.

If the new system comes into force, the party leader will have to participate in local government meetings, take responsibility for the decisions, and be accountable for the results. As Mr Gorbachov put it in his speech, it also leaves the local government free to call for his resignation. That would, in effect, reverse the present relationship between party and government at local level. Once the proposal has been analysed, it may well face strong opposition on precisely these grounds.

The other aspect of the reforms outlined by Mr Gorbachov would give the country a legislature with the potential to be independent of the Communist Party.

At present the 1,500-strong Supreme Soviet is directly elected by constituents in

elections which are undermined by ballot-rigging and apathy. It is divided into two chambers, the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities, and its Presidium is responsible for passing all Soviet legislation, but the procedure is no more than nominal.

Moscow (Reuter) — A newspaper in Soviet Azerbaijan has published the telephone numbers of senior officials in an extraordinary example of the Kremlin's openness policy. The list of 41 numbers was published on the front page of *Bakinsky Rabochy* with the explanation that the step had been taken to "strengthen ties with the masses" and foster the "consideration of complaints and questions".

Mr Gorbachov is proposing to abolish the Supreme Soviet as it currently exists, but — in a politically astute move — without abolishing the posts currently held by Supreme Soviet deputies.

To the numbers who sit in the existing two chambers would be added a third group of 750 drawn from other civil

organizations, which might (although this was not spelled out) eventually include some of the informal groups that have burgeoned in recent months.

The new body of 2,250 would be called the Congress of USSR People's Deputies. It would meet once a year, as an electoral college, to elect a Supreme Soviet of about 400 people with its own commissions. All deputies would be elected for a five-year term.

The new Supreme Soviet would have a Presidium consisting of the President, two senior vice-presidents, and 15 vice-presidents (one from each Union republic). There would also be a Constitutional Review Committee and a People's Control Committee to oversee the work of the deputies.

The present Council of Ministers, which is effectively the national government body, would be pruned drastically from its present size of more than 100 members.

They would be nominated by the President and accountable to the Supreme Soviet Presidium. These structural

changes would not, as proposed yesterday, cost anyone his job immediately. But they could lead to a fundamental shift in the division of power between the Communist Party and the Government at the highest level.

It is possible that the 15 vice-presidents representing the Union republics would be the first secretaries of the party organizations. At the same time, under the new proposals, they would also have to be heads of government. If the two functions were to merge, it would become possible for the government functions gradually to gain ascendancy.

This consideration, together with introduction of the newly defined post of State President — as present the post of President is only ceremonial — leaves the position of party General Secretary uncertain. Under the proposals put forward by Mr Gorbachov yesterday it would appear that the more important post would be that of President. Among other functions, it would include the *ex-officio* post of Chairman of the Defence

Council, which is currently held *ex-officio* by the General Secretary.

Perhaps for this reason, one of the questions left open was whether the General Secretary and the State President should be the same person. In one respect, this would be a return to the time of Brezhnev, Andropov and Chernenko, all of whom acquired the post of President while General Secretary.

Given the change envisaged in the role of the President, however, the relationship between the two posts would be quite different. A situation can be predicted in which a new General Secretary would be appointed, subordinate to the President.

One omission from Mr Gorbachov's proposals was any mention of restructuring the upper echelons of the Communist Party. Even the proposals for the tenure of party officials to be limited was left to be debated at the conference.

All his specific proposals were related to government bodies. This may have been

because he anticipated opposition. Alternatively he may have calculated that, if the other changes are enacted and work, changes in the structure and authority of the Communist Party will take place automatically. In particular, the power it wields without accountability will be sharply reduced.

What the effect of the Soviet leader's proposals could be a thoroughgoing reform of the Soviet system and the destruction of the party's monopoly on power, there is no guarantee as yet that they will come into force.

Although Mr Gorbachov introduced them as firm recommendations and suggested that he had no intention of diluting them, they are still proposals put forward for the consideration of the conference.

Even if they are passed, opposition to them at local and national level is likely to be strong and, as the Soviet leader made clear yesterday, the Soviet Communist Party is a past master at obstruction when its authority appears under threat.

'Vicious circle of outdated notions and formulas' condemned

The following are extracts from the official English translation of the opening speech by Mr Gorbachov to the 19th Communist Party conference:

INTRODUCTION:

The basic question facing us is how to further the revolutionary restructuring launched in our country on the initiative and under the leadership of the party and make it irreversible. The past three years may be quite legitimately described as a radical turn. The party and the working people have managed to halt the country's drift towards economic, social and spiritual crisis ... The *perestroika* policy, as translated into concrete socio-economic programmes, is becoming the practical business of millions of people ...

But does this mean that changes for the better are under way everywhere; that they are going on in full gear and that the revolutionary transformations have become irreversible? No it does not ... We must admit that this has not yet occurred ... What we need now are new, qualitative changes ... and that calls for cardinal solutions and vigorous and imaginative action.

ECONOMY:

The economy is gradually gaining pace. People's *per capita* real incomes have begun to grow again ... The birth rate has gone up while the death rate has dropped. This is related in no small extent to

the war we have declared on hard drinking and alcoholism ... These are the tangible fruits of *perestroika*. But comrades, we have got to be self-critical.

We must see clearly that despite all the positive effects, the state of affairs in the economy is changing too slowly ... In substance, the increase we have achieved in food output has largely been used to cover the demand connected with the growth of the population ... We have neither the moral nor the political right to tolerate the delay in solving the food problem ... And those who are holding up the process, who are creating hindrances, have got to be put out of the way ...

Difficulties arose largely due to the tenacity of managerial stereotypes, to a striving to conserve familiar command methods of economic management, to the resistance of a part of the managerial cadre ... Indeed, we are running into undisguised attempts at perverting the essence of the reform, at filling the new managerial forms with the old content ...

And what is most intolerable is that enterprises are being compelled by means of state orders to manufacture goods that are not in demand; compelled for the simple reason that they want to attain the notorious "gross output" targets ... Need I say that this is totally contrary to the sense of the reform? That it

amounts to the conservation of management methods that have driven our economy into a dead end?

Enterprises that have been given the right to reward their more efficient workers and cut down on the incomes of those that are lazy, wasteful or idle, are using it much too timidly in fear of offending anyone ... To put it plainly, the reform will not work ... if it does not affect the personal interests of literally every person ... For how long are we to revolve within the vicious circle of outdated notions and formulas, such as production for the sake of production, and the plan for the sake of the plan?

SCIENCE AND CULTURE: *Perestroika*, the renewal of socialism, is inconceivable without the maximum activation of the intellectual and spiritual potential of society, which is embodied in science, education and the whole of culture ...

The social status of science and the prestige of scientific work have in recent decades clearly declined ... What is needed is to build up a cardinal new national scientific potential, without which there can be no speedy breakthroughs in basic research, and on this basis to put into effect the whole set of programmes that have been drawn up for our socio-economic reorganisation ... Ample scope must be provided for the maximum development of talent, creativity and self-government, competition on an equal footing, the rivalry of scientific ideas and opinions ...

There are also quite a number of people who react with annoyance to creative quests and who see mounting diversity as a departure from the principles of socialist art ... For much too long uniformity, monotonous conformity and mediocrity were made out to be the hallmarks of progress. We still lack the custom to engage in debate, to dissent, to practise free competition ...

FOREIGN POLICY:

In assessing Soviet foreign policy in the post-war period, we must keep in mind that imperialism, in effect, created an extraordinary situation around us and our allies ... The military threat became for us a constant factor and it has not been removed to this day ... But while concentrating enormous funds and attention on the military aspect of countering imperialism, we did not always make use of the political opportunities opened up by the fundamental changes in the world ... What was needed was not just a refinement of foreign policy but its determined reshaping ... The new thinking is not a final and consummate doctrine. It is dialectical, which makes possible the constant

perfection and development of our policy in keeping with the forward march of real life ... We have begun to base our contacts in relations between states on dialogue; in the sphere of disarmament on a readiness to accept far-reaching reciprocal verification ...

POLITICAL REFORM:

It is a fact, and we have to admit this today, that at a certain stage the political system ... underwent serious deformations ... This made possible the omnipotence of Stalin and his entourage, and the wave of repressions and lawlessness ...

With state structures bureaucratized and the people's social creativity impaired, society became accustomed to single-option and static thinking ... It is this ossified system of government, with its command and pressure system, that the fundamental problems of *perestroika* are up against today ... We are learning democracy and *glasnost*, learning to argue and conduct a debate, to tell one another the truth ... There must be a strict demarcation of the functions of party and state bodies in conformity with Lenin's concept of the Communist Party as the political vanguard of society and the role of the Soviet state as an instrument of government by the people ...

HUMAN RIGHTS:

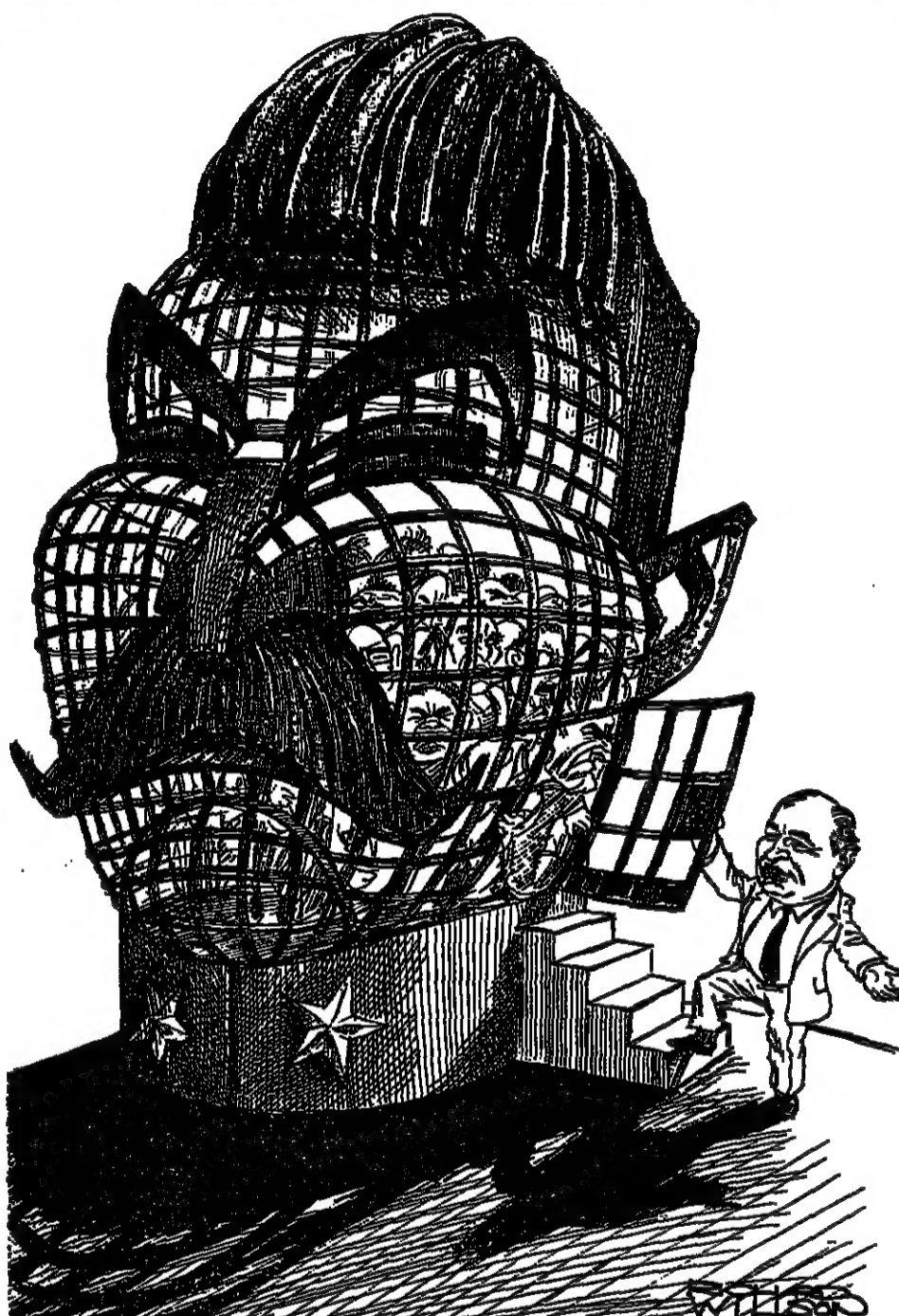
Human rights in our society are not a gift from the state or a boon from someone. They are an inalienable characteristic of socialism, its achievement ...

It is important for us to understand, comrades, that it is a person's standing in society, the rights conferred on him and his duties that ultimately determine his activity in society, at work, in political affairs ...

Perestroika has brought the question of people's political rights into sharp focus ...

Their implementation was affected particularly painfully by the command methods of administration and associated restriction of democracy. All this retarded and inhibited the process of overcoming the people's alienation from government and from politics ...

I would like to dwell particularly on the political freedoms that enable a person to express his opinion on any matter. The implementation of these freedoms is a guarantee that any problem of public interest will be discussed from every angle ... And there is no need to fear the novel, unconventional character of some opinions; there is no need to overreact and lapse into extremes ... As you know, we have lately more than once encountered attempts to use democratic rights for undemocratic purposes ... The CPSU Central Committee considers that



such abuses of democratization are fundamentally at variance with the aims of *perestroika* ...

GOVERNMENT:

We are facing the pressing task of restoring the full authority of the Soviets of People's Deputies, and half-measures just won't do ... The CPSU Central Committee is submitting the following proposals ...

First, that representation of working people in the top echelons of government be extended considerably ... Direct representation of the civic organizations incorporated into our political system should be added to the currently existing territorial representation of the entire population ... All these deputies, elected for a five-year term, would comprise a new representative supreme government body — the Congress of the USSR People's Deputies ... The congress ... would elect from its members

a relatively small — say 400- to 450-strong — bicameral Supreme Soviet, which would consider and decide all legislative, administrative and monitoring questions ...

Second, the work of the chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet should be stepped up and their current anonymity ended ...

We also believe that the government structure at top level should comprise a presidium which would be guided in its work by the president ...

ETHNIC RELATIONS: Since this subject is extremely important and topical, we should discuss it right now. The important thing is to see the actual picture which includes both our obvious achievements and obvious shortcomings ...

We have recently seen for ourselves how tangled the problems of inter-ethnic relations can become. This means that we must do our utmost to

protect and nurture our peoples' brotherhood and friendship ... To try to set people of different ethnic backgrounds against each other, to sow mistrust and hostility between them is a grave offence against one's own people and socialist society, let alone against the law ...

Our population is highly mobile; many people live outside their territorial ethnic entities and some ethnic groups have no territorial autonomy ... Certain collisions may occur, and they can only be settled in one way — by ensuring, within the existing state structure of our union — the greatest possible accommodation of the interests of each nation and nationality and of the entire community of the Soviet Union's peoples ...

LAW:

Perestroika has thrown into particularly bold relief the conservatism of our legal system which is so far largely

orientated not on democratic or economic, but on command-style methods of administration and government with their numerous hanks and petty regimentation ... The public demands stiffer penalties for cases of contempt of court ... strict observance of the democratic principles of justice such as the competitiveness and equality of the parties, *glasnost*, openness, the ruling out of prejudice or bias against the defendant and absolutely no departure from the principle of "innocent until proven guilty".

PARTY REFORM:

We have defined the functions of the CPSU as the political vanguard. But to perform these functions, the party should remodel its activity, the style, methods and forms of its work ... The matter is, in the first place, that the principle of democratic centralism, which underlies the structure and activity of the CPSU, was at a certain stage largely replaced by bureaucratic centralism ... The task now is fully to restore in the party an atmosphere of fidelity to principle, openness, discussion, criticism and self-criticism, unconditional personal responsibility and efficiency ...

The main criterion of appraising the merits of a person applying for party membership is his stance and the part he really plays in *perestroika*. This demand should concern all people — workers, peasants and intellectuals alike ...

The prestige of elective bodies as full-fledged representatives of communists should be restored. The secretaries, bureaux, and especially the party apparatus should be under the control of the elective party body ... Openness, a critical approach and efficiency should reign in all elective bodies. This applies also to the activity of the party apparatus, which should have no unjustified secrecy in its work ...

FUTURE OF SOCIALISM:

Today, reacting to the restoration of truth and justice, to the renunciation of everything that deformed socialism and practice, to the destruction of stereotypes and dogmas, some people maintain that this is eroding the principles and pillars of socialism, and maligning its history. We cannot agree with this, comrades. Most emphatically not. We have no right to permit *perestroika* to founder on the rocks of dogmatism and conservatism, on anyone's prejudices and personal ambitions. What is at stake is the country's future, the future of socialism ...

I want to say, categorically, that we shall continue to develop all truly socialist values, and firmly eliminate everything that distorts revolutionary theory ...

WORLD ROUNDUP

Teamsters face federal lawsuit

New York (Reuter) — The US Government yesterday filed a lawsuit against the powerful Teamsters' Union, alleging it had been infiltrated by the Mafia and demanding that its corrupt officers be removed.

Mr Rudolph Giuliani, a government attorney, said the suit alleges the Mafia has deprived union members of their rights through racketeering, including 20 murders, shootings, bombings, beatings, bribes, extortion and misuse of union funds. A federal judge in New York is being asked to order free elections and other reforms for the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, one of the country's biggest trade unions with 1.6 million members.

It is the first time the federal Government has taken action against a national union on the ground that it was influenced by organized crime. The Teamsters, the only big union to support President Reagan in the 1980 and 1984 elections, has denounced the long-expected government lawsuit.

US rebukes Mexico

Washington — The United States yesterday recalled its Ambassador to Mexico for consultations, in a strong display of anger over Mexico's release of an imprisoned Puerto Rican (Michael Binyon writes).

The White House said the decision to free William Morales, after he had served five years of an eight-year sentence for murder, was "outrageous", and "an inexplicable affront to otherwise friendly US-Mexican relations." A formal protest was lodged with the Mexicans. Morales, who is wanted in the US in connection with the 1975 bombing of an aircraft in New York, was sent to Cuba. Mexico decided last month that his was a political case not covered by extradition policies. The US said it was "a great blow to efforts to combat the scourge of international terrorism".

Hanoi rejects talks

Vietnam has rejected as absurd a proposal for direct negotiations on the future of Cambodia with Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the resistance leader (Our Foreign Staff writes). Meanwhile, in Phnom Penh, President Heng Samrin of Cambodia said that he would neither dismantle his Hanoi-installed Government as part of a peace process nor talk with the Khmer Rouge leaders. The Vietnam News Agency quoted a Foreign Ministry spokesman as saying that the call for direct negotiations sought to deny the legitimacy of the Government in Phnom Penh.

24 cardinals created

Rome — The Pope yesterday consecrated 24 new cardinals in a move that will radically alter the composition of the Church hierarchy and boost the Catholic faith in the Soviet Union (Roger Boyes writes).

He consecrated Bishop Vincentas Sladkevicius as Apostolic Administrator of Kaunas in Lithuania and President of the Lithuanian Bishops' Conference. That means that there are now two officially recognized Cardinals on Soviet territory.

Belgrade plays down 40th anniversary of split

By Richard Bassett
East European Correspondent

Forty years after Yugoslavia's historic break with the Soviet Union, relations between Moscow and Belgrade have never been better.

Both cities yesterday played down the 40th anniversary of the severance in relations. *Glasnost* and *perestroika* in the Soviet Union have performed a vital role in removing years of mutual suspicion, the legacy of Stalin's decision in 1948 to expel Yugoslavia from the Cominform.

The decision did not surprise those who knew Marshal Tito, the maverick architect of post-war Yugoslavia. Even during the Second World War, those who knew Tito saw him as very much his own man.

Sir Fitzroy Maclean, Churchill's liaison officer with Tito's partisans during the war, noted: "Was he (Tito) perhaps tempted to consider the possibility of coming to terms with the democracies, of opening a

window on the Occident, of trying to keep in with the West as well as the East? It seemed unlikely but just conceivable."

From 1948, the West, eager to keep Tito detached from the Moscow camp, poured funds into the country, enabling Belgrade's window in the West to be enlarged to a degree which a few years earlier would have seemed inconceivable.

Western correspondents found themselves suddenly embraced in the streets because of their American or English accents. Such was the force of emotion and anti-Moscow feeling at that time that those whose rudimentary Serbo-Croat suggested they might be of Russian origin found themselves, despite protestations, arrested.

Nevertheless, after the initial rupture from Moscow, Tito's belief in the non-aligned movement in which Yugoslavia became a leading light eventually enabled him to mend

fences with Moscow, keeping in with the East and fulfilling Maclean's judgement.

As Moscow presents a more tolerant face towards the West, the Yugoslavs' home-grown brand of self-management style communism is seen less and less by the Soviet Union as a distortion of its ideas.

From being an outcast, Yugoslavia has not only returned to the fold in Moscow's eyes but has actually set an example.

As Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Soviet leader, reiterated in Moscow yesterday, the present official interpretation of the Stalinist era brands Moscow, not Belgrade, in 1948 for "distorting Leninist principles".

Over a sea of Stalinist troubles, Mr Gorbachov has been keen to extend a hand of friendship towards the Yugoslavs. During his visit to Yugoslavia earlier this year, he reaffirmed the Soviet Union's tolerance of "different roads of social-

ism", saying that "no one and no state has a monopoly of the truth" in such matters.

In the banks and supermarkets of Yugoslavia's wealthiest republic, Slovenia, Mr Gorbachov saw the logical conclusion of his own schemes to revitalize inflexible, over-centralized economies. In return, Mr Gorbachov offered the Yugoslavs something they had missed since Tito's death eight years ago, a charismatic personality in their midst.

Thanks to Tito's legacy of a rotating system of leadership, political figures rarely arouse much enthusiasm these days in Yugoslavia. Tito's death left a vacuum which no Yugoslav seems capable of filling. But Mr Gorbachov's walkabouts in Yugoslavia attracted crowds reminiscent of those which had gathered around Tito at the peak of his popularity.

Forty years after Moscow rejected

any deviation from Stalinist principles, many Yugoslavs are carefully watching events in Moscow.

They are proud that they have for years enjoyed freedoms such as the right to travel, which is still denied to most Russians, and are understandably contemptuous at the idea that their country can learn anything from the Soviet Union.

However, at the same time, any proof that Moscow's current reforms will make the Soviet Union a less hostile country is eagerly consumed by Yugoslavs.

With economic problems providing an annual inflation rate of more than 150 per cent, the potential instability of Yugoslavia can be perceived in the wealthiest and poorest republics. As crisis follows crisis, it is a matter of some to many Yugoslavs that Moscow seems more eager to put its own house in order rather than attempt to manage others.

Harmony at Hanover but differences remain as Community steers towards single market

Summit reveals deep split on 1992

From Richard Owen, Hanover

The final session of this week's EEC summit took place in the businesslike surroundings of Hanover's vast exhibition ground, a choice of site that symbolized the vitality of cross-border trade as 1992 approaches.

But the summit, marked by a mood of harmony with Chancellor Kohl warmly congratulating for his successful presidency over the past six months, revealed a chasm over the future of Europe and the true meaning of a single market without frontiers.

Declaring that Europe needs "less regulation, not more", Mrs Thatcher succeeded in deflecting pressure from other European leaders for radical

moves towards monetary union to accompany 1992, including the setting up of a European central bank and a single European currency. She also made it clear that she has no intention of giving in to mounting pressure for sterling to enter the European Monetary System.

But the Prime Minister agreed to the establishment of a special committee to study monetary union, apparently in the hope that this would bury the question of a European bank. EEC officials maintained yesterday that Mrs Thatcher's concession could prove "the thin edge of the wedge" in the long run.

The study, to be drawn up by Central Bank governors, the European Commission and three "wise men", is to be

completed in a year's time for the EEC summit in Madrid at the end of Spain's presidency.

A communiqué issued yesterday at the end of the two-day summit noted that "the progressive realization of economic and monetary union" was enshrined in the Single European Act, and said the special committee — to be chaired by M Jacques Delors, the President of the Commission — would have the task of proposing "concrete stages" towards that goal.

Mrs Thatcher said there had been "a lot of pressure" before the summit for Britain to agree draft guidelines for the creation of a European bank. "That was not agreed," Mrs Thatcher said, with evident satisfaction.

The words "European Central Bank" did not appear in the committee's terms of reference, and the summit had gone no further than the wording of the Single Act, the Prime Minister said. She hoped the committee would focus on "practical and realistic steps". She made it plain she did not want a united Europe with a single currency and did not believe it would happen in her lifetime, if ever.

Yet President Mitterrand of France, Dr Wilfried Martens, the Belgian Prime Minister, and Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, who is about to take over the chair from Herr Kohl, said the goal of monetary union "obviously includes" a European bank and, as a long-term possibility, a single European currency.

"We have a structure and a date," Mitterrand said. "We are on the right track. If there is to be monetary union, there must be a central body to manage it. What remains to be settled is its relationship to the existing central banks."

M Delors, who was re-appointed to a further four years in office by the summit, maintained it was not significant that the summit communiqué contained no specific reference to a European bank. "This reflects the fact that some people want to move



Mrs Thatcher yesterday examining the press credentials of Alexander Blume, the youngest of the 1,500 journalists accredited to the European summit in his home town of Hanover. He celebrated his 12th birthday by covering her final press conference for his school newspaper.

faster than others," he said.

There was a great deal of common ground on what Mrs Thatcher described as "developing the Community in practical ways of benefit to our citizens". She said the summit had been a "useful milestone", and praised Herr Kohl's "considerable achievements" as chairman. He had pushed through key internal market measures of value to Britain, including the liberalization of capital movements, the abolition of lorry quotas, and freedom of professional mobility.

But prosperity, Mrs Thatcher told fellow-leaders, stems from the creation of wealth, not from "the proliferation of regulations". She attacked EEC proposals for the harmonization of taxation, and made it clear she remains adamantly opposed to British membership of the European Monetary Union.

Asked when the pound would finally join the EMS, Mrs Thatcher replied heatedly that Britain was already in the forefront of the liberalization of capital movements, and had extensive reserves of a mixture of currencies, including the European Currency Unit.

The summit declaration leaves a great deal of room for interpretation, and diplomats said much would depend on whose will proved the more powerful in the coming year.

There was no doubt yesterday about Mrs Thatcher's determination. She said she had no wish to place constraints on what the special committee could discuss, but a European bank was most definitely not on the agenda. "You do not need a single currency to achieve union," she declared, "and you certainly do not need a central bank."

One issue which had threatened to cause controversy — giving the internal market a "social dimension" — was settled, and Mr Papandreu vowed to pay special attention to social issues.

Mrs Thatcher had opposed mention of bringing the trades unions into the 1992 process, and in the end the communiqué supported her view that the single market process could boost the welfare of workers by creating jobs and growth. But it also stressed the importance of "the dialogue with management and labour".

Delors re-election solves dilemma for EEC leaders

From Our Own Correspondent, Hanover

The reappointment yesterday of M Jacques Delors as President of the European Commission, formally announced at the EEC summit here, neatly solves the dilemma confronting EEC leaders over who should lead the Commission towards the Single European Market in 1992.

It is also a triumph for M Delors, whose deep-seated commitment to an integrated Europe, combined with a mercurial temperament, seems certain to bring him into conflict with leaders such as Mrs Thatcher who take a more down-to-earth (some would say more limited) view of what 1992 represents. For M Delors, it means an important step towards a United Europe.

M Delors, aged 53, begins his new term of office on January 1, becoming the first Commission President to serve more than the usual four-year term since Dr Walter Hallstein of West Germany, who was in office from 1958 to 1967.

It had been felt that it was West Germany's "turn" to hold the presidency again this time. But discussions by summit leaders over dinner on Monday night revealed little enthusiasm for Bonn's candidate, Herr Martin Bangemann, the former West German Economics Minister.

In any case, support had been building up for M Delors as his record of achievement in focusing EEC energies on 1992 became increasingly apparent. It was M Delors who devised the wide-ranging package of financial and farm spending reforms approved by the EEC Brussels summit in February.

M Delors, a former French Finance Minister, once openly harboured ambitions to return to French politics and become Prime Minister. But the recent French elections did not lead to any call for his return.

"He is more than happy to

go down in history as the architect of EEC reform," one aide said yesterday. Mrs Delors's relations with Mrs Thatcher have been cool since the London EEC summit in December, 1986. But British officials said yesterday that Mrs Thatcher fully supported his reappointment.

With his hand thus strengthened, M Delors will want a larger say in the formation of his 17-man team in Brussels when the Commission is reshuffled at the end of this year. Herr Bangemann is almost certain to succeed Herr Karl Heinz Narjes as Commis-

sioner for Industry. But a question mark still hangs over Britain's two Commissioners, Lord Cockfield, the Internal Market Commissioner, and Mr Stanley Cleeve Davis, who has responsibility for transport, the environment and nuclear safety.

Officials said M Delors would consult Mrs Thatcher over the next few weeks, and some sources suggested that, despite her differences with Lord Cockfield, Mrs Thatcher might recommend his reappointment to keep the 1992 portfolio in British hands.

On the other hand, Lord Cockfield is 72, and officials believe M Delors may have plans to split the 1992 portfolio, taking some of it under his own wing.

The Twelve's communiqué reviews progress in building a united Europe

The following is an edited version of the final communiqué of the Hanover summit:

1. Internal Market: The European Council considers that this objective set by the Single European Act has reached the point where it is irreversible, a fact accepted by those engaged in economic and social life.

The European Council notes that over one-third of the measures in the Commission's White Paper have now been agreed. The Council considers it particularly encouraging that decisions have been taken or are under way in areas such as full liberalization of capital movements, mutual recognition of diplomas, opening up of

public contracts, insurance matters and road and air transport. The European Council notes that this progress was made possible by the full use of the voting procedures in the Single Act.

The European Council has agreed that decisions for the completion of the internal market should be taken as soon as possible on public contracts, banks and other financial services, the approximation of standards, and intellectual property.

As regards the extent to which harmonization in taxation is necessary, to ensure the establishment and functioning of the internal market in conformity with Article 99 of the Treaty, the European

Council notes with satisfaction that economic and finance ministers are engaged upon a serious examination of the Commission's proposals.

In the context of the directive on capital movements, the European Council stresses the importance of the decision by finance ministers on June 13 that the Commission would transmit before December 31, 1988, proposals aimed at eliminating or attenuating risks of distortion, evasion and fiscal fraud linked to the diversity of national systems for the taxation of savings.

The internal market should not close in on itself. In conformity with the provisions of Gatt, the

Community should be open to third countries, and must negotiate with those countries where necessary to ensure access to their markets for Community exports.

2. People's Europe: The European Council underlines the importance of removing obstacles to the free movement of persons and the need to intensify and widen co-operation between national administrations in close collaboration with the Commission to ensure effective measures to combat terrorism, drug abuse, and organized crime.

3. Social Aspects: The European Council notes that by removing the obstacles to growth, the large single market

offers the best prospect for promoting employment and increasing the general prosperity of the Community.

The Council considers that it is necessary, besides improving working conditions and the standard of living of wage-earners, to provide better protection for the health and safety of workers at their workplace.

The Council emphasizes the importance of informing and consulting management and labour throughout the process of achieving the single market, and with that in mind requests the Commission to step up its dialogue with management and labour.

4. The Environment: The European Council expresses its concern about the danger to the environment in general, and in particular that caused by the pollution of air and water. It notes the recent positive results of the work of the Environment Council and invites the Commission and the Council to intensify efforts to improve means of combating air and water pollution.

5. Monetary Union: The European Council recalls that in adopting the Single Act, member states confirmed the objective of the progressive realization of economic and monetary union. They have therefore decided to examine at the European Council

in Madrid in June, 1989, the means of achieving this. They decided to entrust to a committee the task of proposing stages leading towards this. It will be chaired by M Jacques Delors, President of the European Commission.

The heads of state and government have agreed to invite the president or governor of their central banks to take part in a personal capacity in the proceedings of the committee.

6. Presidency of the Commission: The European Council, after consultation with the President and Enlarged Bureau of the European Parliament, has agreed to renew the mandate of M Delors as President of the Commission.

Angolans protest at Savimbi visit

Angola yesterday protested to Britain over the visit to London next week of the leader of Unita, Dr Jonas Savimbi (Nicholas Beeston writes). The Angolan Ambassador to London, Mr Eliseo de Figueiredo, told the Foreign Office Minister with responsibility for Africa, Mrs Lynda Chalker, that the private visit could damage relations between Luanda and London. "We believe that our relations with the UK Government are making progress and strengthening, but the visit may cause a few problems," he said. "It does not create a good atmosphere when they concede a visa to a terrorist." He pointed out that Britain frequently refused visas to less controversial figures. Mrs Chalker told the envoy that Dr Savimbi was free to come to Britain as a private citizen, but he would not be received officially at any level. Dr Savimbi is on a tour of the West rallying support for his cause.

Fuel price up

Lima (Reuters) — The Peruvian Government has announced a 58 per cent petrol price rise and demanded new arms and ammunition to fight guerrillas.

Pay offer

Sydney — The Australian Government has recommended a 5.5 per cent pay rise for the country's seven million workers, half a per cent less than unions had demanded.

Cyanide deaths

Ankara (AP) — A mystery accident involving cyanide poisoning left four people dead and 20 injured at an Indiana plating company.

Leader killed

Amsterdam (AP) — A gunman shot dead Mr Nihat Karama, aged 41, a prominent member of the Turkish community in The Netherlands.

Court right

San Francisco (NYT) — The California Supreme Court has ruled that a state parole board did not err in rescinding the scheduled parole of *The Onion* Field killer, Gregory Ulas Powell, jailed for murdering a policeman.

Sri Lanka toll

Colombo (Reuters) — Marxist gunmen have killed four government supporters, wounding four more in continuing violence in southern Sri Lanka.

Ash shipment

Cosmark (Reuters) — A Norwegian firm loaded 15,000 tonnes of illegally dumped American ashes on to a freighter at the Guinean island of Kassa.

Bus tragedy

Delhi (AFP) — At least 32 people were killed and several others injured when an overcrowded bus fell into a ditch in eastern Bihar state.

Flood deaths

Dhaka (AFP) — Floods engulfing more of Bangladesh lifted the death toll to 22.

Jailed for life

Sydney (Reuters) — Mario Possiglione, aged 46, an Italian chef, has been sentenced to life imprisonment for smuggling 12 lb of heroin into Australia in footballs.

Grave attacks

East Berlin (Reuters) — Five East German youths have been charged with desecrating more than 200 Jewish graves while yelling anti-Semitic and fascist slogans.

Plotter jailed

Kuwait (Reuters) — Ibrahim Abbas Jazfar Zainal, aged 42, one of five men accused of plotting assassination, explosives manufacture, bomb buildings and the use of force against prison officials, has been sentenced to 10 years' jail with hard labour.

Prison visit in Iran Briton insists on a trial

From A Correspondent, Tehran

Mr Roger Cooper, the British businessman held on spying charges in Evin Prison, Tehran, had a visit yesterday from his brother, Paul, who had been waiting for nearly two weeks to see him.

The visit lasted more than an hour, and Mr Cooper reported that his brother was in good health and spirits, though he noticed that his 2½-year detention had left its mark. "His hair seems thinner and there are lines of worry round his eyes, but his morale was high and he had no major complaints about his current treatment. He has been allowed a visit to no fewer than three oculists, one of whom was a specialist he was allowed to visit outside the prison. They have clearly taken a lot of trouble in getting him good spectacles."

Mr Cooper himself was not optimistic that the recent improvement in Anglo-Iranian relations would necessarily lead to his release. He asked his brother to arrange for him to do a London University degree course in classical Persian from prison, saying: "I don't think of being released. I have to plan for the possibility that I won't be. Who knows? I could be here for another six years."

He was not happy with the progress of his investigation and asked his brother to contact leading judicial and political authorities to press for an independent investigation into his case.

He has already given some quarter of a million words of evidence in his own defence to his interrogators, but no decision on his fate has been taken in the courts. He said his release seemed no nearer now

than in early 1986 when his interrogators promised to release him in two or three months.

The same promise was given to him before his first and second television interviews and again more recently.

Mr Cooper told his brother, and the microphone that recorded their entire meeting, that he has never had any links whatever with the British or any other intelligence agency, nor had he knowingly met any secret agents.

He did not want a pardon from the Iranian Government; he wanted a fair trial. "I want to come out of Evin with my innocence proved."

Mr Paul Cooper is to meet the Minister of Foreign Affairs today and plans to discuss proceedings for a judicial review of his brother's case.

Pilots 'chatted and joked' as jet headed for disaster

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

The pilots of the French Airbus jet were chatting and joking as their aircraft headed towards trees at the end of the runway at Abbeville, near Mulhouse in eastern France, crash investigators have discovered.

The "black box" cockpit voice recorders reveal that the two pilots were joking about security within Air France shortly before the impact on Sunday and ignored repeated audio warnings that they were only 30 ft from the ground.

The pilots have told the investigators that they were convinced they were 100 ft high as they made a slow pass in front of spectators at an air show. But the computers, which "thought" the aircraft was ready to land, relayed constant audible warnings of their height through their headphones.

The pilot, Captain Michael

Hasseline, had not filed a flight plan and had not taken a full flight manifest before he took off from Besse for the pleasure flight, which ended with the deaths of three of the 136 passengers and crew, and left 20 people injured.

French officials have already warned that if he is proved to be to blame for the crash he could face manslaughter charges.

There was enormous relief among airlines and the thousands of workers around Europe associated with the Airbus project that the equipment on board the A320 jet could not be faulted. But at the same time there was growing anger that the pilot appeared to have made so many fundamental mistakes in what turned out to be a fatal trip.

PARIS: Investigators plan to question the two pilots to

find out why the aircraft attempted a daring low-level pass (Reuters reports).

A spokesman for France's Civil Aviation Board said yesterday that the pilot would appear before an official commission of inquiry to go over evidence from the flight recorder.

They will be asked to help reconstruct what happened when the Air France plane, which was carrying 136 people, belly-flopped, ploughed into trees and burst into flames.

The French Transport Ministry said preliminary investigations showed that the 150-seat plane was not at fault in the accident. Air France, British Airways and the French domestic airline Air Inter immediately resumed Airbus A320 flights which were cancelled after the crash.

Car bomb kills US naval attaché in Athens

From Mario Modiano, Athens

A car bomb detonated by remote control yesterday killed Captain William Nordene, aged 51, the US Embassy defence and naval attaché in Athens, as he drove to work from a northern suburb where he lived with his English wife, Patricia, and their daughter, aged 12.

The explosion was so powerful that it ripped off the side of the diplomatic car, which turned into a fireball. Captain Nordene's body was flung out and was found in a walled garden 20 yards away.

A neighbour was injured by flying glass as window panes were smashed in houses within a radius of 200 yards. Residents said they thought they were being shelled or that there had been a strong earthquake.

Police said a stolen car loaded with explosives had been parked less than 100 yards from Captain Nordene's

house, which is guarded round the clock. It exploded as he drove up the one-way street.

A neighbour's servant, who saw two people scurrying out of a deserted house in the area after the explosion, was being questioned.

Although no organization has admitted responsibility, Greek police pointed out that the booby-trapped car technique was used in August last year during the bombing of a US Air Force base near Athens airport, which was claimed by "November 17", a domestic extremist group that favours American targets.

The Greek Government was prompt in expressing its "abhorrence" of the murder, denouncing it as an attack against democracy. Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Prime Minister, who is in Hanover for the European summit, immediately sent his regrets to the American Ambassador,

and his condolences to Captain Nordene's widow.

The attack comes at an embarrassing moment for Mr Papandreu. Greece assumes on Friday the rotating presidency of the European Community and the Government, having often irritated its partners by its reluctance to co-operate on counter-terrorism, wants to be seen on its best behaviour.

For the past four weeks, a row has been brewing between Athens and Washington, which has asked for the extradition of a Palestinian suspect wanted in the US in connection with a bomb explosion on board a Pan Am airliner in 1982.

The Greek authorities insist on more convincing evidence before handing the Palestinian over, but a hurried statement by the Justice Minister yesterday implied more flexibility.



Greek police examining wreckage of the booby-trapped car which killed the US diplomat.

Church leader gives hint of boycott in South African poll

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The annual five-day national conference of the South African Council of Churches has opened here with the most explicit appeal so far by a leading clergyman to fellow-Christians to engage in civil disobedience as part of the campaign to end apartheid.

In his annual report, Dr Frank Chikane, the General Secretary of the council, said yesterday that the illegitimacy of the political system, the censorship of the news media and the suppression of anti-apartheid organizations had forced the churches to assume some of the functions of "an alternative government".

Opening the conference at a church service the previous night, Dr Chikane declared that, "on the basis of the practice and constitution of this Government", Christians were "compelled to regard it as illegitimate" and were "thus not obliged to obey its unjust laws".

The first half of 1988 had already seen member churches of the council moving away from "their luxurious traditional position of just making moral and theoretical pronouncements... about the evils of apartheid" and shifting from "passive condemnation of the system to active opposition to it", Dr Chikane said. If people felt that the

October 26 municipal elections should be boycotted to demonstrate their "refusal to collaborate and co-operate with evil", then "we need to consider whether we as a church should not break the unjust law that says it is a criminal offence to call for a boycott", he said.

"We need... to consider whether we should not tell our pastoral responsibility, that their participation within this system is becoming untenable and incompatible with our faith, as this system acts more and more tyrannically. We need to consider whether we should not call (on) our people to pull out of the politics of apartheid and join the real struggle for democracy."

In making this speech, Dr Chikane was risking possible prosecution under the State of Emergency regulations which prohibit any incitement to boycott or reporting of same. Johannesburg's evening newspaper, *The Star*, after taking legal advice, ran a diluted version of Dr Chikane's speech on an inside page omitting any reference to a possible boycott.

Under a recently introduced refinement of the emergency regulations, it is also an offence for newspapers here to quote statements deemed to

threaten public safety by persons who are office-bearers in, or generally known to be members of, various restricted organizations. As a leading light in the United Democratic Front, Dr Chikane is in this category.

Dr Chikane said the October elections and the proposal approved yesterday by Parliament for a constitutional advisory council to plan a new constitution were "a farce and a fraud", adding: "We are compelled to tell our people that this is just another way of luring them into participating in racist apartheid structures again".

The South African Council of Churches has 19 member churches, and together with the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference, which has observer status in the council and broadly shares its radical political views, claims a membership of some 10,230,000, 80 per cent of them black. It has come to wield increasing influence as other channels for political dissent have been closed.

It has been learnt here, meanwhile, that the weekly *New Nation* newspaper, which is funded by the Catholic Church and was banned for three months under the previous emergency, is to appear again later this week.

Palestinian fighters barred from Sidon



Sunni Muslim militiamen burning tyres to block the entrance to Sidon and keep out Palestinian fighters evacuated from the Chatila refugee camp in Beirut, 27 miles south of Beirut, is critical and would be made worse by the arrival of new Palestinian fighters, a source close to the Lebanese Popular Nasserite Organization (PNO) said yesterday (AFP reports).

Militiamen from the mainly Sunni PNO, which controls the southern port city, had earlier intercepted two lorries carrying Fatah Palestinians loyal to Mr Yassir Arafat, the PLO chairman, about two miles to the north. The evacuation came after nearly two months of fighting between Fatah loyalists and pro-Syrian dissidents loyal to Colonel Abu Musa in the Fatah Provisional Command that left 94 people dead and reduced the camp to rubble. In Tunis, Mr Salah Khalaf, an influential PLO leader accused Syria of having worked out a deal with the United States designed to disarm the Palestinians and expel them from Lebanon.

Egyptians face riddle of how to save Sphinx

From Susan MacDonald, Giza

The question of whether the beard of the Sphinx — now stored in the British Museum — should be returned to the Egyptian monument's face pales beside the fate of the Sphinx itself.

The magnificent face of Ramses II still stares out towards Cairo, but the rest of the 4,000-year-old masterpiece is in a sorry state, harmed by insect infestation and work and exploitation of the surrounding land.

Yesterday Professor Federico Mayor, Director-General of Unesco (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), visited the Sphinx during a two-day visit to Egypt.

Halfway up the rickety wooden scaffolding erected against the body of the Sphinx, Mr Farouk Hosni, the

Egyptian Minister of Culture, explained to Professor Mayor the urgent need to find a way to save the Sphinx. From where we stand we can stretch out a finger to touch the chest of the Sphinx, but to do so is to see the sandstone crumble like dust in our hands. Egyptian experts say the rising water table in the area is creating the humidity that is rotting away one of the seven wonders of the world.

Professor Mayor looked in disgust at the white brick, of the type used on garish villas, which now forms a protective covering wall on the Sphinx's feet and lower torso. The wall has probably done harm, not good, and is an eyesore. Mr Hosni has halted all work on the covering; it is now realized that the wall does not allow the sandstone to breathe.

He promised that the giant amusement centre and housing opposite the

Sphinx would go, and wants Unesco to ban all building around the Sphinx and the pyramids, and to undertake a scientific study. Professor Mayor promised to study the situation, but cautioned to do nothing in haste.

Unesco's standing is high in Egypt — the land where it has had its greatest successes. The previous Director-General, Mr Amadou Mahtar M'Bow, visited Egypt nine times. Professor Mayor's two-day visit has been an attempt to forge links of his own while preaching the change that Unesco must achieve to survive.

In a debate on Unesco's future he underlined his priorities: education, an early-warning system for the protection of the environment, reduction of natural hazards, human genes experimentation, the preservation of water, and — the one that aroused such controversy under Mr M'Bow —

worldwide distribution of information. It quickly became clear that the Egyptians were unhappy that Professor Mayor had not mentioned the question of the Palestinian struggle in the occupied territories and apartheid in South Africa.

It is issues such as these that have bedevilled Unesco in recent years. Britain, the United States and Singapore have withdrawn from the organization, listing among its defects the accusations that it had become a Third World political body.

As the months tick away, the good will which Professor Mayor enjoyed when he took over last October is disappearing, with no real signs of positive change. Other Western countries, such as West Germany, are saying privately that they will give him 18 months before deciding on the usefulness of Unesco.

US drought blighting the economic outlook

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Rain over the next two weeks is the only thing that can save the US economy from a significant rise in inflation and a potential large drop in growth as it battles the effects of its worst drought in half a century which could have a dramatic impact on international trade.

The drought and relentless heat, which have raised images of the Dust Bowl conditions of the 1930s, could not have come at a worse time for the beleaguered US farmers, the regional banks struggling to overcome bad loan problems, the US budget deficit managers and the presidential candidates.

Economists are already projecting annual food price increases of 4.5 to 5 per cent, and these figures assume that the drought ends this week. Under the worst-case scenario of a total crop failure, food prices — an important component of the US index of leading economic indicators — could rise 6 to 10 per cent. That is double or triple the official projection of 3 per cent this year.

The projected food price rise is only one of the components which could trigger a complicated chain reaction that would alter the current rosy economic picture for 1988.

Consumer reaction is critical. If consumers react to higher food prices by saving less, then the overall impact on the economy will be slight. But

if they decide to maintain current savings levels and buy the same amount of food, then purchases of other goods and services will be cut back and large portions of the economy will be affected.

The result could be a significant drop in annual growth, which could decrease by as much as 1 per cent over the next 12 months.

Economists, working on the assumption that consumers will maintain current savings levels, have reduced estimates of US growth for the third quarter from 3 per cent to 1 per cent.

With unemployment at its lowest level in decades, economists also fear that workers will have enough leverage to demand higher wages to offset inflation, thus generating the sort of wage-price spiral that occurred in 1973, when the failure of the Soviet grain crop caused world food prices to soar.

In America's scorched, crop-producing areas — which stretch from the Canadian border to the Mississippi delta and from Montana to Ohio — the drought has already halted a newly-born recovery which had dragged on for six years. Local business failures in farm communities are rising, and bank profits are plunging.

The drought has led political consultants to advise Vice-President George Bush to pray

for rain. If the drought persists, there will be calls in the US farm belt for more government aid and a change at the top, which will not benefit Mr Bush, as a presidential candidate.

Mr Beryl Sprinkle, the chairman of the US Council of Economic Advisers, said that he expects the inflation rate to rise because of the drought, but he did not foresee a dramatic negative impact on the economy this year.

"Approximately 2 per cent of our GNP is generated in the farm community, so it is not as if all commodities are suffering inflation," he said.

But on other levels, the drought presents a severe threat to the US economy which could have a dramatic impact on the global economy.

The US Agriculture Department, in an attempt to keep prices down and supplies available, is selling record amounts of its grain surpluses.

At the current pace of sales, the Government's supplies of soy beans could be exhausted by July, and by August wheat stocks could fall to 147 million bushels, the level set by Congress as a minimum emergency reserve. Corn stocks also are dwindling rapidly.

Only twice before, in 1949 and between 1975 and 1977, have the Government's reserve grain stores been depleted. The result was an international rise in food prices.

Punishment American-style

Courts use hi-tech shackles to relieve crowded prisons

From Charles Bremner, New York

A couple of centuries since they fell out of use, the stocks and the ball and chain are making a comeback in America. From Washington state in the West to New York in the East, judges are increasingly turning to 1980s variants of such punishment as cost-effective ways of relieving the worst prison crowding in the Western world.

Public humiliation is proving a useful tool for dealing with drunk drivers and sex offenders. In parts of Florida, for example, first-time offenders are being allowed to stay on the road provided their car sports a large scarlet-and-white sticker that proclaims them to be "convicted dui" (drunk under the influence).

In Oregon, a judge ordered a convicted child molester to post signs outside his home and on his car warning children to stay away. In Seattle, Washington, last month a 19-year-old woman was sentenced to wear a sign saying "I am a convicted child molester" for 60 days when she leaves home.

Public ridicule was the object of Oregon judges who ordered a dozen thieves to advertise their crimes and punishments by buying space in newspapers to publish their pictures and an apology. They also have to repay their victims — a common feature of alternative sentencing.

The biggest boom in the new punishment business is "home surveillance" — the

high-technology ball and chain. These devices enforce a form of house arrest or curfew imposed on non-violent criminals as a way of keeping them employed and out of trouble. In California, the offender wears a plastic transmitter round an ankle. If you leave the house, except for approved trips, you set off alarms.

American entrepreneurs are doing good business thinking up new systems for local justice authorities desperate to keep down costs. In a Texas version, a firm called Programme Monitor Inc. installs a video-phone system in the criminal household. As the price of staying out of jail, the felon must push a button that sends his television image to the company when it makes random calls, day or night.

"This programme has been like a parent to me," said Maria Amford, a 27-year-old from Houston who opted for the alternative to jail after a series of drug offences. "I've turned into the world's greatest housekeeper." Not everyone is happy about the barrage of novel punishments, although the experts say they are popular with the burglars, car thieves, forgers, tax evaders and underworld fences. Some civil liberties groups see grave dangers in the way such punishments "broaden the net of social control". Left-wing lawyers rushed last week to the defence of Debra Foster, a Phoenix teenager who was sentenced to take the Pill for

the rest of her child-bearing years, after she was convicted of gross abuse of her two sons. An irony not lost on the law-and-order lobby is that the rush to new punishment is a direct consequence of the harsh sentencing in the get-tough Reagan years.

The prison population has doubled to nearly half a million over the past 15 years, a far faster rate than the crime rate. Most states have brought in no-parole and mandatory prison sentences for categories of severe crime, thereby packing the jails to such an extent that 36 states are now held by federal rulings to be running inhumane prisons. Hundreds of prisoners have successfully sued their jailers for inhumane conditions. Despite the European notion that America lets its criminals off lightly, the country has the highest proportion of incarcerated citizens in the Western world.

Much of the pioneering work in novel sentencing has been reluctantly pursued by Georgia, which has the most crowded prisons. One of its more successful ideas is its boot camp, where young males serve a 90-day stretch of military-style shock-training. According to the state authorities 80 per cent of inmates are reformed, but critics worry that it serves only to harden already tough youths. "Kids go in feeling like Rambo and come out feeling more like Rambo," says Kim Garrett, a prison reform advocate.

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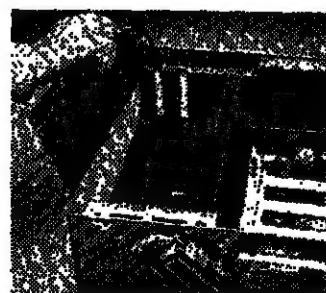
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Anonymity for rape suspects is rejected

A move to ensure that the name of a man suspected of rape as well as that of the victim were kept secret from the moment the offence was reported, rather than from the time that a man was charged, was made by the Opposition when the Commons resumed the report stage of the Criminal Justice Bill.

The Bill, which has been passed by the Lords, provides for big changes in the law on juries, allows children to give evidence by video links, and allows the Crown to appeal against over-lenient sentences.

Mr Robin Corbett, an Opposition spokesman on home affairs, said that unless the Bill was amended women would be deterred from reporting rape. This meant that more rapists would walk free, ready to strike again, when they ought to be behind bars.

He moved a new clause that anonymity should apply from the moment an allegation of rape was made by a woman, or some other person. That would provide the earliest possible protection for the victims.

He said that among the issues involved was how better to shield a rape victim from sensation-seeking newspapers while ensuring that a defendant had a fair trial. Rape trials were held there for newspapers to add to their circulation by salacious reporting.

In 1986 the *Thi Sun* had published a front page picture of a supposed rape victim. When he had asked what the chances

were of a prosecution, he had been told that the Sexual Offences Act did not prevent that type of publication.

The new clause would be a unique provision. If it was right to make this exception in respect of women victims it must be right to extend similar protection to the defendant man. A man charged with rape and subsequently found not guilty was never wholly free from the stigma.

But there was a more compelling reason for maintaining anonymity and that related to a major survey among 25,000 women conducted by *Women's Own* in 1986. That indicated that 55 per cent of all rape victims knew their attackers and that a third of all such attacks took place in the victim's home.

Even where the attacker did not know his victim, one in every eight offences took place in the woman's home.

"These figures give us a warning. If a rape victim in the majority of cases knows her attacker, then so do lots of other people. Enabling the defendant to be named will, in most cases, almost automatically identify the rape victim which in turn will undo the extra protection this Bill seeks to give to victims."

It was argued that anonymity for the man could hinder the police in their efforts to find a suspect wanted for other offences, but that was nonsense. It need only be said that the man was being sought for serious criminal offences without detailing them.

The survey had shown that three in every four women kept quiet about rape because they felt they would not be believed.

If the Bill were passed unamended even more women would keep quiet.

Mr Tony Baldry (Banbury, C) said that to move from the danger of stigma felt by victims of rape to giving anonymity to defendants would be an illogical step.

This country had a very open system of justice. Inevitably in such a system people found not guilty might feel themselves besmirched. But the reputations of a middle-aged woman accused of shoplifting or a company director accused of tax evasion were at risk in the same way as the reputation of a man accused of rape. An exception for defendants in rape cases would create a dangerous precedent.

Mr Tony Worthington (Clydebank and Milngavie, Lab) said that there was very little point in giving protection to the victims of rape if the accused was to be publicized. The two went together. In smaller communities to name the accused was to name the victim.

Mr Kenneth Hind (West Lancashire, C) said that there was no sound reason for the man accused of rape to have the protection of anonymity whereas those accused of robbery, murder and manslaughter did not. There were worse crimes than rape.

Mrs Anna Taylor, an Opposition spokesman on home affairs, it takes a man to say that.

Mr Gerald Brougham (St Helens South, Lab) said that the problem was the sensationalism of the press. Many rape cases occurred between family, between people who knew one another. Naming the accused

PARLIAMENT

Merseyside tour for Kinnock



Mr Neil Kinnock (left) with Mr Keva Coombes, leader of Liverpool City Council, during the Labour leader's visit to an unemployed people's resource centre in the city yesterday. A group of demonstrators shouted "scab" as he arrived.

defeated the whole purpose of the exercise which was anonymity for the victim.

Mr John Patten, Minister of State, Home Office, said that those accused of murder were under acute public scrutiny, but nobody was suggesting that they should not be named.

The Criminal Law Revision Committee had pointed out in 1984 that rape was only one of many offences where somebody who was acquitted might none the less suffer damage to his reputation.

There were other areas in criminal law, such as blackmail and offences against children, where the victims were not

named but where the defendants did not have the benefit of anonymity.

It was not true to say that giving the identity of the alleged assailant could lead to the identity of the alleged victim being revealed because the Bill prohibited the publication of any information which was likely to lead to the identity of the victim being revealed.

This was a matter of judgement, not party politics, and he simply did not agree with Mr Corbett.

Mr Corbett said that, at the very least, there was a risk that naming the defendant would make it easier for people to

identify the victim and, as a result, even more women would be deterred from reporting rape allegations to the police.

The new clause was rejected by 274 votes to 150 - Government majority, 124.

● An Opposition new clause seeking to amend the prescribed limits of alcohol which were permissible in the bloodstream when someone was allowed to drive legally was moved by Mrs Taylor.

She said that many people took risks by drinking and driving and did not realize the impact that would have on their driving ability. The problem

was extremely serious and had intensified in recent years and action to deal with it in Britain lagged behind action taken in many other countries, especially Western Europe.

Drinking and driving was perhaps one of the main causes of avoidable deaths in Britain, causing grief, anguish and misery.

The Christmas period was not necessarily the worst time for drunk driving. The time for many accidents involving drinking and driving was this time of year when the evenings were light and many people went out to country public houses and drank too much.

Worry over surface fleet

Mr Martin O'Neill, the Opposition's new spokesman on defence, was quick to comment on today's report from a Commons committee that the surface fleet had too few ships available to meet Britain's peacetime commitments.

During defence questions, he asked Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, if he was still confident of meeting his responsibilities within Nato as far as the surface fleet was concerned. There had been reports, he said, of a deplorable rundown. Would he announce the orders for the Type 23 frigates which the country and the shipyard desperately required?

Mr Younger said that there had been no official report of the sort he mentioned. The Government intended to keep a force of about fifty destroyers and frigates and he would be announcing an order for further frigates as soon as the process of assessing bids was complete.

Crossing the Severn

Two ministers shilly-shallying about plans for a second Severn crossing were standing on the jagged vein of the Welsh economy, Mr Rhodri Morgan (Cardiff West, Lab) said during questions.

He asked Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the Commons: Would he ask the Prime Minister to knock together the heads of Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Transport, and Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Wales, for their shilly-shallying over the second Severn crossing?

Mr Wakeham, who was replying for the Prime Minister, said: As one who goes over the bridge frequently (laughter) I recognize that the increasing prosperity that this Government is bringing to South Wales is increasing the amount of traffic.

There would be an announcement in due course.

Question time 'a farce'

Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the House, admitted to sympathy with an Opposition MP who said that Prime Minister's question time was a farce. To exclaimations of surprise and delight from the benches opposite, Mr Wakeham said: I can think of something better to do with 15 minutes of my time every now and again.

He added: But seriously, Prime Minister's questions are determined by the House and not by the Prime Minister.

Mr Wakeham was answering questions in the absence of Mrs Thatcher in Hanover.

Council sales

Mr Alan Michael (Cardiff South and Penarth, Lab) made an unsuccessful attempt to get an emergency debate on the Government's plan for the sale of council estates in Wales.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Scotland, Northern Ireland Act 1974 (Interim Period Extension) Order and Appropriation (No. 2) (Northern Ireland) Order. Lords (2.30): Local Government Finance Bill, report, first day.

Labour gives Wakeham noisy reception

Opposition MPs gave Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the House, a noisy reception when he answered questions in Mrs Thatcher's absence, greeting with loud laughter his remark that the balance of payments deficit was the counterpart to capital inflows that reflected confidence in Britain.

He was frequently interrupted during his responses to the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr Kinnock: Three months ago, the Chancellor predicted a balance of payments deficit of £4 billion for 1988. Using the same expert advice, what is the Government prediction now?

Mr Wakeham: The Chancellor told the House on June 16 that the recent figures pointed to a larger deficit than forecast at Budget time.

The current account deficit is the counterpart to capital inflows. These reflect the new-found confidence in the UK as a

place to invest and are financing high investment by the private sector, which will boost future performance.

Mr Kinnock: If everything is going so well, why are interest rates going up?

Mr Wakeham: Control of interest rates is the principal weapon in the instrument of monetary policy within conditions of continuous comprehensive assessment of monetary conditions.

As the Chancellor has indicated: "I will continue to set interest rates at the level necessary to ensure downward pressure on inflation". That is what he did today.

An increase of half a percentage point "reflects a further tightening on monetary conditions in line with moves earlier this month".

Mr Kinnock: The Chancellor and the Prime Minister have been saying that short-term



Mr Wakeham: "A new-found confidence in UK"

interest rates were the essential lever of monetary policy. There have been seven changes in the short-term interest rate in 12 weeks. Has the lever come off in

the Chancellor's hands?

Mr Wakeham: Interest rates are an essential weapon in controlling monetary conditions.

What is more to the point, a 1 per cent increase in wage costs is four times as damaging as a 1 per cent increase in interest rates.

Mr David Steel, joint leader of the SDP, said that the high value of the pound, added to runaway, easy credit, sucked in imports and worsened the balance of payments crisis.

Why did the Prime Minister resist, as she continued to do today, seeking exchange-rate stability by way of joining the European Monetary System? Will he explain the contrast between her resistance to that and her tactics enthusiasm last week for Canada to join in economic unity with her larger neighbour?

Mr Wakeham: Control of

inflation is paramount. The Government will not bail out massive increases in domestic costs by allowing exchange-rate depreciation. Restraint of industry's costs is in its own hands.

The Prime Minister is discussing these issues in Hanover and he should await her statement on Thursday.

Dr Jeremy Bray (Motherwell South, Lab): If the root of the Chancellor's problem is that foreigners are so eager to thrust money on us, why has he increased interest rates?

Mr Wakeham: I have already answered that question and I have indicated that the movement of interest rates reflects the need to keep inflation under control, which is the paramount need of the economy at any time. The problem of people wishing to invest in this country would not be there if his party were in Government.

Bullying criticized

Bullying and racial harassment were obnoxious and had no place in the Army, Mr Roger Freeman, Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, said.

The full cost of implementing the measures he had announced previously to combat bullying in the Army was approximately £2 million a year.

Over the past 18 months there had been about 130 allegations of bullying, of which 104 had been investigated and about sixty had been found to be without foundation.

Mr Bernie Grant (Tottenham, Lab): Two of the most obnoxious forms of bullying in the Army are racial harassment and racial abuse.

Mr Freeman: I agree that racial harassment and racial discrimination are obnoxious.

House 'misled' on Trident costs

A Labour MP accused the Government of misleading the Commons over the cost of the Trident programme and of being economical with the truth rather than economical with taxpayers' money.

During question time exchanges, Mr Allan Roberts (Bootle, Lab) asked what action the Secretary of State for Defence proposed to take about inaccurate evidence said to have been given by his department to the Select Committee on Defence examining progress of the Trident programme.

Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, said that a formal Government response to the committee's comprehensive report would be made in due course and it would be inappropriate to anticipate that response. He was pleased to

DEFENCE

note that the committee felt that the programme was generally well run.

Mr Roberts said that the Government was still misleading the House and the country about the cost of Trident. The Ministry of Defence was being economical with the truth rather than economical with taxpayers' money.

The select committee had been very condemnatory of the MoD for misleading it and not telling the truth to the Commons.

Mr Younger said that was a serious charge and the House would not expect him to anticipate the response to the committee's report. The suggestion that

the Government had misled the House about the cost of Trident was completely at fault. The cost of the programme had come down in terms of foreign exchange costs and actual costs.

Mr Julian Brazier (Canterbury, C) said that the cost of the Trident programme was a modest proportion of future defence spending and represented excellent value for money.

Mr Younger said that that was correct. It should be noted that 95 per cent of a large defence budget went on non-nuclear defences.

● Mr Younger said that he had no wish to intervene in the industrial dispute that has halted work on the Trident programme at Barrow. His comment came during Commons questions when he said that the programme remained on schedule.

Mr John Cartwright (Woolwich, SDP) raised the issue when he said that all work on the Trident submarine at Barrow had been halted for three weeks as a direct result of management attempting to compel the entire workforce to take its summer holiday in the same two weeks in August.

"In view of past successes at Barrow, it is not ridiculous that this Victorian attitude to industrial relations should be allowed to imperil something as vital as Trident?"

What steps would the Secretary of State be taking to safeguard the future of the programme?

Mr Younger said that he did not wish to intervene in what was essentially an industrial dispute.

They may get a reputation for weakness in their departments and with the interest groups whom they want to satisfy.

The spending pressures are likely to be particularly acute in a number of fields. Demographic factors and possibly improved take-up will increase expenditure on social security entitlements, where payments could not be limited without further legislation.

More money will be needed to implement Mr Kenneth Baker's education reforms. Health and defence presented particularly sticky problems last year, and will do so again.

There is the persistent growth of local authority spending, which ministers find specially worrying but which they have been unable to prevent. It is hard to believe that this year will prove any exception.

Then there will be the bids from the Scottish and Welsh offices. Mr Peter Walker's proposals for the rejuvenation of the Welsh valleys will cost £500 million of public money over three years, as well as attracting more private investment.

Mr Malcolm Rifkind has been pointing to a different approach for Scotland. He has been putting all the emphasis in his speeches on the Thatcherite approach north of the border. His speech on that theme at the Scottish Conservative conference in Perth last month was especially well received.

That would not suggest a

DEFENCE

strategy of salvation through public money. But when it comes to departmental bids one cannot take it for granted that the rhetoric of spending ministers will be reflected altogether faithfully in their policies.

So how will the dilemma of excessive claims on limited resources be resolved? As always on these occasions, there will be a general piling down. But there is a danger that, for political reasons, defence will be the principal victim.

The Government has invested so much political capital in its education programme, health is such a sensitive political issue and social security expenditure is an difficult to curb without further policy changes which ministers would hardly contemplate, that these areas seem bound to be given priority.

In the age of Gorbachev and disarmament there are not similar political pressures for defence spending.

That is especially true for the present Government after Mr Kinnock has got himself into such a mess over his nuclear policy. The electorate is hardly likely to believe that Labour would handle defence better, almost whatever the Conservatives did.

Yet yesterday's report from the defence select committee points to the danger of continuing to squeeze defence spending too much. There is a risk of stumbling into policy changes almost by accident.

Ministers accused over tax evasion

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

The Labour Party accused the Government yesterday of presiding over a huge increase in tax evasion. It said that, according to official figures, evasion had risen more than sixfold since 1979, to £741 million last year, yet that might be only the tip of the iceberg.

However, ministers rejected a four-point Opposition plan to act against fraud, which was moved during the Commons committee stage of the Finance Bill.

The Opposition wanted the law changed to force auditors to report fraud to the Inland Revenue, to ensure British co-operation in international moves against tax evasion by multinational companies, to open up to public scrutiny agreements reached between tax inspectors and evaders, and to provide more staff and money to tackle the problem.

The Treasury said yesterday that the Government had already taken several measures to curb tax evasion.

"We put forward our own proposals on the enforcement powers of the revenue departments, which have been brought in a succession of financial Bills since the Keith committee report, which is five years old."

"Within their own efficiency targets, the Inland Revenue and Customs and Excise have been able to give more staff to deal

with special investigations and other anti-evasion measures and these have proved very successful."

In a separate move yesterday, the committee of MPs scrutinizing the Bill approved new Government clauses aimed at plugging tax-avoidance loopholes covering tax treatment of some covenants between employers and employees and the use of trusts to avoid capital gains tax.

Mr Nicholas Brown, a Labour Treasury spokesman, said: "The Government has consistently refused to back the battle against tax fraud, allowing such fiddles to become one of the few boom industries of the so-called Thatcher enterprise culture."

Mr Brown said that the Inland Revenue's Schedule D Compliance Division was 25 per cent understaffed.

Attacking the Government's "warped" sense of priorities, he said that proportionately far greater resources were channelled into stopping social security fraud.

Tax evasion cost the country 13 times as much as DHSS benefit fraud of £55 million last year, yet only 2,600 officers were employed to investigate tax fraud as opposed to 2,724 on benefit fraud.

The Treasury said that "fraud was fraud" wherever it occurred

Some of the most bitter clashes in earlier Thatcher governments were over public expenditure, and the chances are that this year's round, which will shortly get under way, will be a difficult one.

It will certainly be harder than last year to resolve the differences between the Treasury and the spending departments.

What was remarkable then was that for the first time within memory the whole process was completed in bilateral negotiations between the Chief Secretary to the Treasury and the spending ministers. No disagreement had to be taken either to the "star chamber" of senior ministers or to the full Cabinet.

There was indeed some hard bargaining, and many of the negotiations were completed only at the last minute.

At the end of one week the star chamber had a preliminary meeting to discuss a considerable number of programmes on which it expected to have to adjudicate. By the end of the next week they had all been settled.

There are a number of reasons why the process is unlikely to be so smooth this time. Neither side in the bilateral talks will have so much freedom for manoeuvre.

With the sharp increase announced this week in the balance of payments deficit, Mr John Major, the Chief Secretary, will presumably have to be even



Mr John Major: Likely to be tougher than expected

more rigorous than had been expected.

Revenue is likely to be well ahead of target this year. That would suggest that a little more spending could be allowed next year without cutting into the intended budget surplus. But the Treasury cannot afford now to give any impression of fiscal laxness. Mr Nigel Lawson is already being accused of having introduced too generous a Budget.

That will be an economic constraint on Mr Major. There will also be political pressures on the spending ministers.

They may have been right to conclude last year that they would get more by settling with Mr Major. But if they always do

Spending battles on horizon

By Geoffrey Smith

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Police-Masons Bill is introduced

Police officers should not be Freemasons because their oath of loyalty to that secretive organization was incompatible with the declaration they made as police officers to serve the whole community impartially, Mr Dale Campbell-Savours (Wokingham, Lab) said in the Commons.

He was granted leave, under the 10-minute rule procedure, to introduce a Bill to amend the form of declaration for a constable prescribed by the Police Act, 1964. Voting was 117 to 16 - majority, 101.

He said that he was not attacking the principles of Freemasonry, but he believed that membership of such a secretive organization was inappropriate not only for police officers but also for members of the judiciary and those responsible for public administration.

It had been estimated that 33 of 50 chief constables were Freemasons, that up to half the members of the Police Federation were Freemasons and that as many as one in five police officers were Freemasons.

Earlier, Mr Robert Croy (Bradford South, Lab) said that MPs who were Freemasons, and that did not include him, should not vote on the Bill because they had a direct pecuniary interest.

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) said that he, too, was not a Freemason, but he understood that it was not

impossible to find out who was (laughter).

After the vote, Mr Max Madden (Bradford West, Lab), on a point of order, said that, as the vote had been carried by such a large majority, it must be asked why there were so few MPs opposed to the Bill. There appeared to have been a Masonic picket at the entrance to the "No" lobby.

The select committee on members' interests was considering a request from him that MPs who were Masons should be required to declare their Masonic membership in the register of members' interests.

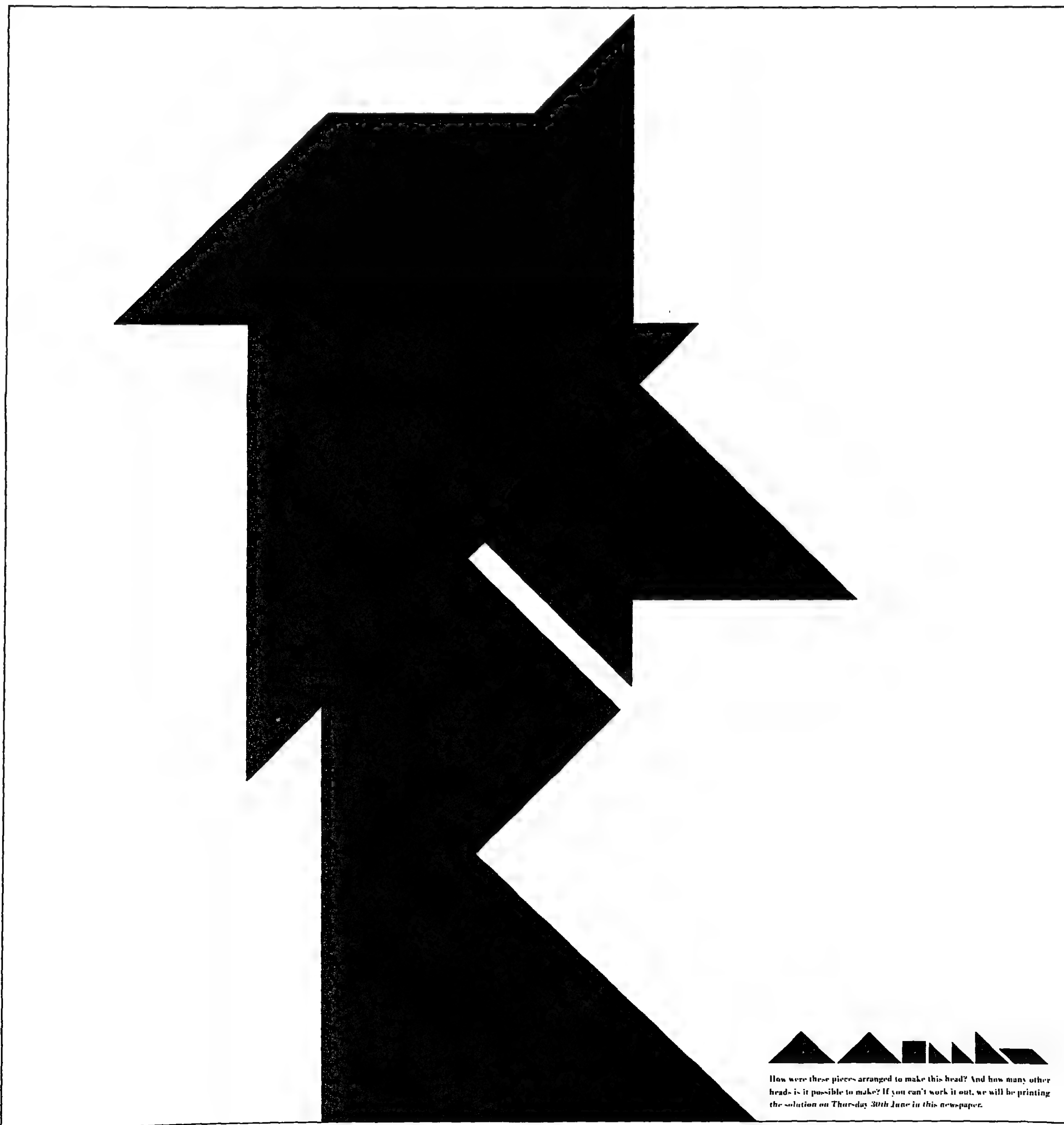
Attempts by him to table questions asking the Prime Minister to confirm whether she was a member of the Star of the Eastern Lodge, which she was, were unavailing, having been blocked in 1975, had been blocked.

As this excellent Bill required the police to declare Masonic membership, it was high time such a declaration was required of MPs.

Mr Croy said that the pickets had numbered more than six and were exclusively members of the Conservative Party in the Commons, including the Whips' Office. Would it be fair to draw the conclusion that the House of Commons' Freemasons' Lodge was centred in the Conservative Party?

The Speaker said that he knew nothing about pickets.

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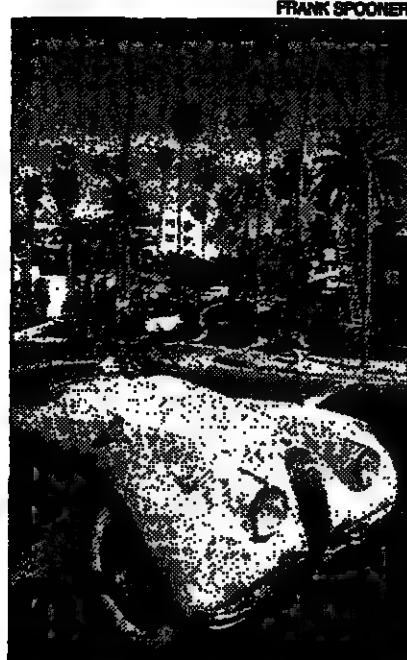
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SPECTRUM

Coming soon, 75 years on the summits of excess



Luxury in the fast lane in Beverly Hills

Beverly Hills throws a year-long party to mark its anniversary as the world's richest suburb

Some cities fete their jubilees with a historical pageant or two. Not Beverly Hills. The world's most affluent suburb is about to kick off a whole year of festivities to mark its 75 years of existence and, of course, excess is the dominant theme.

The focal point is a piece of cake. After a battalion of film stars launches the festivities on Monday (Independence Day) with a parade through the manicured streets, the cake will spend months being driven around in a limousine. There is no chance of it going stale, since it has been created out of 2,500 diamonds by Harry Winston's establishment.

A diamond cake is the right symbol for a place that prides itself on the unashamed celebration of raw wealth. Monte Carlo has its seedy side; the down, out and doped-up have sullied Park Avenue; Neuilly and Belgravia share the big city grime. Nowhere else on earth can you see such a display of consumption as in Beverly Hills, a five-square-mile enclave of lavish bungalows and palaces,

lawns and swimming pools, that took off as the social centre of the movie industry when Douglas Fairbanks and Mary Pickford chose to build their home, Pickfair, in it.

As an independent "city", Beverly Hills manages to guard the privacy of its 35,000 residents. As well as the planet's highest Rolls-Royce density, it also boasts the most policemen per inhabitant—at least in the Western world. For every 130 people there is a well-groomed, black-uniformed officer to keep the peace. The highest-paid police in the world are helped by a local law banning overnight parking in any street. Backing that up, nearly every home sports a sign promising an "armed response" from a private security firm should there be any intrusion. However, comfort is at hand for the wounded burglar, since BH also boasts one doctor per 50 inhabitants.

"We're kind of an island in here," says Fred Cunningham, the town hall spokesman. "People want everything nice and they're willing to pay for it."

For a start, becoming a resident means

paying a hefty premium over the cost of property just the other side of the city limits. "There's a tremendous demand to be one of those 35,000 people," says Steve Shapiro, a local estate agent. "You don't get anything for less than a million." Beverly Hills property value within the 5.6 square mile limits is estimated at more than five billion dollars.

If you want to join the big league, the first thing you do once you acquire your house is tear it down and build something much more expensive. Architectural style is relatively unimportant, Shapiro says. "The thing is putting money where you can see it. For instance, you'll see a lot of slate roofs and stone facades going up on Sunset Boulevard now. It also means enormous kitchens, bathrooms and closets."

Top among the "teardowns" is a \$12 million mansion bigger than the White House now going up for Aaron Spelling, the television mogul. The neighbours are objecting to the pile, which will have a bowling alley and an entire floor of

clothes closets. Andrey Imas, a neighbour, calls it "the mental institution, because you'd have to be crazy to build something like that."

Soon, though, the Spelling palace will be dwarfed by a monumental home that the Sultan of Brunei is planning to throw up behind the Beverly Hills Hotel. He has demolished five houses to clear the space.

Beverly Hills may be exclusive, but it does not discriminate on race or social origin, Shapiro says. "In this town, we don't judge a person by where they come from. It's strictly based on who's got the most money."

But long-time residents say the old movie-star class is fast moving out to Bel Air—home-to-be for the Reagans—and the hills overlooking the ocean. "All we're getting now is boring businessmen, lawyers and doctors who want to show they have made it," says a socialite who prefers anonymity. "Look how *déclassé* the Beverly Hills Hotel has become since the Sultan of Brunei bought it."

Jackie Collins, who chronicles the sin-

and glitz of the locals in her steamy novels, says she still loves Beverly Hills. "It's a great place. I love every minute of it," she told a recent interviewer. "The research for my books is right outside my door."

A sign of change is the arrival this year of Beverly Hills' first pawn shop. Hidden behind curtains on the second floor, the Rodeo Drive Jewellery Loan Shop reads out experts on home visits to appraise items for hock.

In Beverly Hills, servicing the affluent is very big business. Should you be thinking of giving your dog a face-lift, this is the place to find the best surgeon. Open the local newspaper and you find a classified section headed "Airplanes". Last week a local used-acroplane dealer was offering a Boeing 727 which "includes a sitting room and master bath... private aft lounge and gourmet galley".

Beverly Hills winds up its jubilee next summer with "the world's biggest fashion parade", featuring 1,000 models and maintaining to the last the theme of excess.

Charles Bremner

Hot on the scent of knowledge

While living in Oxford in 1961, the Hon Miriam Rothschild noted a familiar, yet puzzling scent coming from a bunch of nettles. It was not that the smell was out of place, simply that she could have sworn it was the very same tang—not at all unpleasant—that she could also detect in ladybirds.

She was, as she has frequently been in her long career as a scientist and naturalist, correct. Before long she was to discover that this smell crops up all over the place—in vines, milk-weeds, passion flowers, tiger moth, swallowtails, butterflies and plant bugs, to name but a few.

She does have an extraordinary nose; in fact the rest of her 79-year-old face is just as memorable, in an emphatic sort of way, but it is the olfactory part which concerns us most, since it is a scientific research instrument which cannot be reproduced. It is not irresponsible to suggest that her 1961 and subsequent sniffings will improve the learning abilities of the human brain before the end of the century.

Research initiated by her and conducted in Oxford and Cambridge has already established that the capacity of certain animals to learn is dramatically enhanced through the use of highly-scented chemicals known as pyrazines.

One sniff from Miriam Rothschild helped reveal the mysteries of chemicals called pyrazines. Now, Alan Franks reports, they could unlock the doors to memory

The crucial factor common to "carriers" of the smell is that they are either well defended or vividly coloured; the pyrazines appear to work as a sort of alerting signal, either boosting the memory of the predator or stimulating recognition in some way. They are, in Miriam Rothschild's own words, "small's equivalent to the red light... they alert. They do not necessarily repel, however. Far from it; often the smell is highly appealing. So far as we can

ascertain, they are there to heighten awareness."

Through the recent series of experiments with laboratory rats at the Department of Experimental Psychology at Cambridge, Professor Nicholas Mackintosh and Dr Helen Kaye have discovered that the animals can learn that the smell of pyrazines indicates that their water has been adulterated with quinine. Offered plain water in one chamber and adulterated water in another, the rats at first found it hard to gauge which of the two was safe for drinking. But after the addition of pyrazine odour to the unsafe one, they almost instantly acquired the ability to discriminate. Even more significantly, they remembered the actual environment in which the odour was present. They had only to smell it again in order to recall the experience with which it was associated.

Miriam Rothschild says that before long she will be telling her grandchildren to use the stuff to help them in their A levels; if she intends that flippantly, she conceals it well. "I believe that if the assimilation of particular knowledge becomes associated with this smell, then the smell can aid the process of recall."

But to return to her nose, which is so sensitive that it can detect 4,000 more aromas than the average ("Not always an entirely



A nose for facts: scientist Miriam Rothschild, magisterial but revered by colleagues, on her stand at the Royal Society exhibition in London

good thing, I suppose"). This was to be seen last week at the home of the Royal Society in London, hovering among the insect-laden greenery in one of the exhibition rooms. At first glance she might have been Miss Marple caught unaware at the Chelsea Flower Show.

Once she starts to speak, it is clear that she is no aging eccentric—even though she maintains that she is aged 80, not 79, because, "like the Chinese, I prefer to measure age from the date of conception rather than birth."

She is unrepentant about her lifelong passion for insects, and delights in the fact that on a recent lecture visit to France she was hailed by one newspaper as "the Queen of the Fleas". It is a fair tag, given that she has to her credit a six-volume catalogue on the creatures, as well as a work entitled *Fleas, Flukes and Cockroaches*. In *Who's Who*, her sole listed recreation is "watching butterflies".

Interest in the pyrazines stand at the Royal Society was intense. In such sober halls it seemed alluringly out of place, with its tiny animals and plants, and behind them a notice bearing an almost tabloid-brash claim for "odour signals which potentiate learning". And then, whatever her modesty, there was the presence of Miriam herself, at once magisterial and

accessible, and utterly revered by her colleagues.

Cagey about the funding of the programme she may be, but she has managed to attract and use the expertise of Australian Professor Barry Moore, who—with advanced techniques of gas chromatography and mass spectroscopy—has proved that the haunting odour common to many disparate items is produced by pyrazines. She is thus one of our last scientists in the tradition of operating privately, and highly effectively, from the background of a great British intellectual family.

Her father founded the Society for the Promotion of Nature Reserves, and her uncle, Walter, the subject of a recent biography by her, was a highly distinguished naturalist. As she herself demonstrated in that book, the Rothschilds fall neatly into the financial and banking branch on the one hand, and into the world of science and nature on the other.

There were other exhibits to illustrate her work, such as rabbit pellets, and a bottle of Montana 1979 Cabernet Sauvignon. "Smell that," she said, holding up a glass. "It's got that same aroma."

Pyrazines. Quite unmistakable. Now smell this." She pinched a slice of red pepper. "A little different, naturally, because of the other things that are present. But it's there... it's in urine as well."

A visitor overheard and seemed eager to help. "I met some tramps the other day who were living in a derelict hospital, and they told me they used urine to mark out their own boundaries."

"There you are. How very interesting."

But how to put a smell into words, that's the problem. One might settle for "familiar", because nobody seems to find it novel or peculiar. According to Helen Kaye, people frequently opt for "garden" or "misty" words, while Rothschild favours "evocative".

Whatever its connotations, its strength is immense. Even through a semi-sealed bottle (and a heavy cold), an aqueous solution of only 0.0000025 per cent gives off a powerful aroma.

The research project and its founding spirit seem to an outsider a glorious mixture of sense and serendipity. "My nose told me that it was the same aroma that I

could smell in both things, the nettle and the ladybird, even though there were differences, obviously."

Another scientist, Professor Gunnar Bergstrom has a complementary theory that the smell of pyrazines is often produced by the process of roasting or burning. Forest and prairie fires, he argues, must for centuries have been providing alerting signals.

"The fascinating thing," Rothschild says, "is that here is a system which is in operation throughout the world. What I have found so wonderful is the involvement with all these plants and insects. It's the smells that I adore. I can't tell you why. It's like trying to explain why a particular kind of music should be pleasing to the ear. It just is."

"But you will keep asking me what the next step in the research is to be. Well, we will have to extend the experiments in order to try to see how potent a stimulant pyrazines are. Obviously there is an awful lot still to be done, and we do have a great deal of determination. Nowadays, it seems to me that far too often people start something, and it gets so far and then no further."

Might there be a breakthrough before her grand-daughters' A levels?

"I didn't hear that. And no more photographs, please. Particularly not ones from the side."

THE TIMES SLEEVELESS LAMBSWOOL SLIP-OVER

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Using a technique standard in the petrochemical industry, two Japanese researchers have measured far higher amounts of dissolved organic carbon in the oceans than had been previously reported.

The new measurements, to be published in July in *Marine Chemistry*, indicate that dissolved organic carbon plays a more important part in the life cycle of the oceans than has so far been appreciated. The results may also lead to a better understanding of what controls the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and which, through the greenhouse effect, may influence climate.

Dissolved organic carbon is produced in the oceans through the decomposition of particles of organic matter, including dead organisms, but also arises from waste products excreted by living organisms. The dissolved organic material comes in many forms, ranging from simple molecules to complex molecules with thousands

of carbon atoms. It has long been recognized that these dissolved molecules are an efficient form of food for oceanic micro-organisms, bacteria in particular.

With the help of oxygen, bacteria convert them into dissolved inorganic carbon (carbonate and bicarbonate) in much the way land animals "burn" carbohydrates and breathe out carbon dioxide.

Hitherto, it has been a puzzle for oceanographers that the amounts of dissolved organic carbon measured are insufficient to account for the rate at which oxygen is found to be consumed by bacteria as well as for the amounts of inorganic carbon accumulated. But it has also proved impossible to

resolve the discrepancy by supposing that bacteria can use as food the particles of organic carbon sinking in the ocean.

The greater concentrations of dissolved organic carbon reported by Yukio Sugimura and Yoshiaki Suzuki, of the Meteorological Research Institute in Tsukuba, seem to provide an answer. In their new analytical method, filtered sea water is injected into a furnace at 600 C in the presence of a platinum catalyst, which helps rapidly to decompose even the most complex carbon molecules.

The molecules are consumed in an atmosphere of oxygen and the carbon dioxide produced is measured to determine the amount of dissolved organic carbon.

Sugimura and Suzuki have measured four times as much dissolved organic carbon in surface waters, and twice as much in deep waters, as previously reported. It seems the conventional method failed to oxidize all of it, so concentrations have been greatly underestimated.

The new results are consistent with the observed amounts of dissolved inorganic carbon and oxygen consumption in the ocean, and strongly suggest that the major route by which organic material in the ocean is converted to inorganic form is by means of dissolved organic matter.

The new understanding of the oceanic carbon cycle has a bearing on Earth's climate, because the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere is to some degree controlled by the carbon chemistry of surface sea water, and especially by the concentration of dissolved inorganic carbon.

David Swinbanks
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WEDNESDAY PAGE

A good case for counsel?

The NSPCC has suggested that 'marital problems' play a large part in precipitating child sexual abuse. Can it really be true? asks Heather Kirby

When the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children delivered its latest figures on child abuse earlier this month, it also noted that 'marital problems' were most often identified as the reason for the sexual abuse of children.

Can marriage guidance counsellors, therefore, be expected to become the new frontline in the search for the cause of a problem which the NSPCC suggests is not going to go away (its 1987 figures for sexually abused children, based on abuse registers in 12 areas, showed a 21 per cent increase on the previous year)? Should marital discord be considered as a factor in identifying abusers (in which case the field of abusers would broaden considerably), or accepted as a reason for abuse? Or do marital problems simply arise out of abuse within a family, rather than precipitate it?

In Cleveland the local branch of Relate (the new name of the National Marriage Guidance Council) has a waiting list of four months for an evening appointment, which is slightly less than the national average of four to six months. Local officials say their caseload has not increased substantially as a result of the child abuse scandal, but they do claim that for many of their clients it has made acknowledging abuse that happened to them in their own past easier to confess.

Jean Earnshaw, who has been giving sexual counselling for 10 years in Middlesbrough, says: "If the Cleveland inquiry has done anything, it has made people who come for marriage guidance talk about their own experience of child sexual abuse more openly. In the past they would not come with that problem upfront, and their childhood trauma would only emerge after a lot of counselling. But now there is more awareness and more willingness to see that sexual abuse suffered decades ago could be what is causing them problems now."

Some experts working with the abused and abusers have pointed out that while many people manage to come to terms with such horrific events in their childhood, others do not, and go on to repeat the only close family relationship they have ever known, either by becoming an abuser or by accepting abuse within the family. Others grow up into inadequate adults and choose the sort of partner who will reinforce their own lack of self-worth, or bury the abuse experience so deep they are no longer aware of it.



Jean Earnshaw, Cleveland marriage counsellor: "The inquiry has made people talk about their own past experience of sexual abuse more openly"

Earnshaw's experience of the abused adult is that "typically, a woman may have fallen in love but find it a struggle to achieve her sexual identity because she feels worthless, as her body is not her own. She may want to be loving but there are blockages that make it impossible. Or she may find herself unreasonably jealous of her husband's relationship with their child because she cannot help the suspicion, drawn from her own experience, that all fathers have sexual relations with their children."

She feels that a wife whose husband is sexually abusing their children may go for marriage guidance but would not admit the problem to the counsellor. "She would complain he has become aggressive, is drinking a lot or is absent from home, any sort of marital difficulty which would seem reasonably normal. What has to be kept up at all costs is a semblance of normality. After counselling the real cause of their marital difficulties would emerge and sometimes the husband will come to see us, if they are genuinely seeking outside help, because we offer a forum for them to bring the subject up." Relate would be obliged to report to the police any man who admitted abuse, but would counsel a woman who was worried about the possibility and alert the social services.

It was NSPCC workers involved with the families of abused children who, asked to assess factors most likely to create stress and precipitate child sexual and physical abuse, nominated 'marital problems' as most likely. (Second among the factors they identified was unemployment, followed by 'inability to respond to the maturational

needs of a child', and poor self-esteem. "Marital violence" was recorded most often as the precipitator of emotional abuse of children.) Other experts in child abuse would say that marital difficulties are effect rather than cause, and that "stress" has little to do with sexual abuse. But there are differing views on the nature of an abuser.

Dr Mervin Glasser, a consultant psychiatrist at the Portman Clinic in London, where they specialize in dealing with offenders as well as their families, maintains the perpetrator is a sexual deviant. "There is something in an abuser's sexual life that is not working properly; it is developmentally faulty. He is physically perfectly normal, and is capable of a full sexual act."

There are many different types of child sexual abuser. For example, there is the man whose sexual interest in his wife is limited; he may only be able to be potent if he fantasizes a fantasy about children during intercourse. From time to time, usually in response to some emotionally stressful situation, he will impulsively carry out a sexual act with a child.

"Another type who is quite different is the man who is socially isolated, who doesn't usually have a wife, is consistently committed to a sexual interest in children and has no interest in adult women."

Psychologists define a number of different types of child sexual

abuser, although any one may also show traits from another type. David Glasgow, a psychologist who treats offenders at the Merseyside Regional Forensic Centre in Liverpool, says that among them is the paedophile "who deliberately marries or joins a family where there are children to satisfy his own sexual craving for a young person. There is also the social and emotional inadequate who is pathetic outside the family, who will weep and wail when interviewed by a social worker or the police. Physically he will be quite small but he will tend to run the family by psychological blackmail — the 'if you tell anyone the police will take me away and it will be your fault' approach."

"And there is the type who sees his little girl like a baby doll in frilly frocks, who is paternalistic and obsessed with childhood. Or the man who behaves like a commandant in a prison camp, who uses physical violence and sexual abuse in equal amounts."

Christopher Vincent, marital psychotherapist at the Tavistock Centre, believes that "a weak, dependent woman with a very controlling man" may collude in abuse in an attempt at maintaining a type of marital harmony. "A wife turns a blind eye to what is going on underneath her nose. Such is their degree of dependence that it becomes a balancing act, a trade-off in their minds. What is going to, their children or their marriage?"

Most experts make a distinction between paedophiles and incestuous fathers, although with the increase in remarriages, some believe that the dividing line is blurring. Terry Simmons, one of the NSPCC child protection team leaders, said: "I have never worked with a child sexual abuser where I didn't uncover the most ghastly background. I used to think that if a man deliberately had children because he needed them sexually I would just be too sick. But now I think, who can tell?"

'Some wives perform a balancing act: what is going to go, their children or their marriage?'

BRIEFLY

A round-up of news, views and information

Home helps

Increasingly we learn to be relieved of life's irksome necessities — such as taking the cat to the vet, queuing at the supermarket checkout, spring cleaning the house or even packing to go away on holiday.

So Candy Bowman, who used to work in the classified department at *The Times* and "got tired of trekking back to Grays Inn Road with Safeway carrier bags cutting into my hands", started Home Matters two years ago in September, with the working slogan "If you've got the money, we've got the time". No job is too big or too small or too silly to consider.

At this season they are plugging their holiday service, which can include cleaning, ironing, repairing and packing for the trip; taking work clothes for cleaning and repair while you're away; seeing that your pets are cared for, plants are watered and fridge is suitably stocked for your return.

"Our product is people, and people are infinitely unpredictable," says Bowman, by way of an excuse for not being able to quote precise prices for her myriad functions.

"Generally our fee is £7 an hour for all sorts of things such as packing or running errands, but for shopping it's £7.50 for goods up to £75, and after that it becomes 10 per cent of the value of the goods." Spring cleaning can cost anywhere from £50 to £250.

Although they serve only the London area now, Bowman envisages setting up such a service in other parts of the country and would like to start up a franchise operation.

Fees are cheaper for those who take out "membership" in Home Matters, at £100 per year, £65 for six months and £35 for three months. Home Matters can be reached at 23A Leconfield Road, London N5 2RX (01-359 7339).

Quilt complex

The Times crossword is one of the more unusual entries in the National Patchwork Championships to be held next week (July 7-10) at Audley End, Saffron Walden, Essex. About 20,000 people are expected to attend and 50 quilts have been submitted for a category celebrating the 400th anniversary of the defeat of the Spanish Armada. There will be displays of patchwork, applique, quilting, expert advice, supplies and ample encouragement for beginners. Admission is £3. In the autumn enthusiasts will be able to view — and buy — traditional Amish quilts at Liberty, when the Regent Street store holds a display of the work at which the Pennsylvania Dutch are arguably supreme.

Packed tight

For those who like to keep holiday packing to a minimum, the Sleeping Company of 65 Wigmore Street, London W1, and 122/143 Fulham Road SW3, has some streamlined suggestions. A delicate satin kimono in its own slim case costs £39, a mini stow-away slippers in a travel pouch costs £6.50, with travelling slippers and prints to co-ordinate with robes for £7.95 and £12.95. And to avoid messy mishaps, there is a collection of frivolous-looking but sensibly lined wash and make-up bags from £5.95.

Quote me...



"A reporter once described me as a wimp for giving up my career for Nick. I was absolutely furious. As far as I'm concerned it's a full-time career keeping everything together while dashing all around the world." Gill Faldie

Bottle bank

Gotta lotta bottle? Then fill out some sponsorship forms and take them down to designated collection points across London on Saturday, July 9, for Bank a Bottle Day.

The festival has been organized by the fledgling Opportunities for Women, in conjunction with Friends of the Earth, in order to raise money for "women's" projects in Belize, Nepal and the Caribbean — and, of course, to conserve a valuable resource to be recycled by the big bottle manufacturers.

An elaborate hanging-bottle sculpture by Lorna Greene — better known for her less fragile work in brick and stone — was unveiled yesterday on Islington Green after a security team stood guard throughout the night to make sure no drunken reveller mistook it for simply the sum of its parts.

Contact Opportunities for Women (01-340 3975) at Centre Two, Ousian News, London N4 4DX for further details and you will almost inevitably get a man on the line — such as Clive Mira-Smith, an anthropologist who joined forces with Kim Whatmore to start the women's charity in January this year.

Why doesn't OFW fund projects for British women such as seminars and courses on everything from assertiveness to self-defence which are so fashionable here at the moment?

"High flyers already have enough done for them," says Mira-Smith firmly. OFW aims to deal with the women other charities don't reach.

Victoria McKee

Divorced, but partners just the same

Anna Vinton's marriage broke up in 1981, but she sees her husband daily at the business they still run together

Anna Vinton has the perfect relationship with her business partner. They share the same commercial philosophy, the same sense of humour, the same aims and the same ideals. The fact that they used to be married is, she believes, entirely irrelevant. "We work better as a team because we know each other very well."

As one of a growing number of husband-and-wife teams, Vinton and Anthony Hawser

joint founders and managing directors of Reject Shop, created and sustained a marketing niche which has become a household by-word. When their marriage foundered in 1981, they saw no reason why their business partnership should do the same. "The way we've managed to make it work is by seeing each other in the office only," Vinton says.

So successful has this business relationship proved that tomorrow the company, with



Success: Anna Vinton, whose Reject Shop group will be launched on the USM tomorrow

its 13 branches, will be valued at £14 million when it comes on to the Unlisted Securities Market. Its most recent pre-tax profits of more than £1 million make Vinton a wealthy woman.

She is somewhat sceptical about husband and wife business partnerships in general. "I wonder how successful the marriages are. I think it's difficult to spend your day working together and then go home together. You go on living and talking about it."

She remarried five years ago. Her second husband, Alfred Vinton, an American banker, accepted the fact that his wife still spent her working life with his predecessor, now also married to an American. The only possible difficulty, she admits, was that Alfred worked for the American-based Morgan Guaranty and was due to return to New York. He left the company instead, after 25 years, and moved to N.M. Rothschild where he is now chief executive.

As a girl, Vinton wanted to be an actress. She had worked as a theatrical agent, and had gone into property development, buying, restoring and selling 25 houses in Fulham, south-west London, before she decided that it was "a ghastly shabby business, quite horrid". But the money she had made came in handy when she and a female friend started the Reject Linen Shop in 1972.

They stocked up with discounted goods and ends of lines normally sold by retailers only in their sales. The Marquis of Queensberry, who owned the Reject China Shop, sent them a solicitor's letter, but withdrew it after (according to Anna) walking past the shop in Knightsbridge and seeing two young girls trying to make a penny or two.

The following year, however, when she and her former husband opened another shop in Brompton Road called simply Reject Shop, selling a

whole range of household goods, Queensberry felt that they were stretching the rules. "We came to a gentleman's agreement that we wouldn't sell any of his sort of lines."

Vinton, 40, a former debutante, seems able to turn a well-manicured hand to a wide variety of activities. "I'm a doer and I like having things to organize." She has plenty of opportunity, with her children, Isabel, two, and George, six months, a nine-bedroom house in Market Harborough, 10 horses (she hunts with the Belvoir and Quorn), 150 acres of farmland, a 10-acre garden, and an elegant Knightsbridge flat.

Her customers are mainly the younger generation seeking to furnish their first flat or bedsit. "As they get older they use us for their secondary rooms," she says. "I've some of our furniture in my nursery and that's what I would expect of somebody of my age."

Sally Brompton

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EX. LARGE SOFA	£1011	£ 770	£ 610
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FOOTSTOOL	£ 162	£ 115	£ 88

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1200 SERIES	£ 1186	£ 865	£ 663
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TIMES DIARY MARTIN FLETCHER

Bryan Gould, Labour's unstoppable rising star not many months ago, faces the first real test of his career at this autumn's annual party conference. A year after first being elected, he is in serious danger of losing his place on Labour's national executive as the far left seeks revenge for his alleged "yuppification" of the party. Gould, architect of Neil Kinnock's attempted modernization of the Labour Party, is top of the far left's secret "hit list" and both the Bennite Campaign Group and left-wing unions such as the giant TGWU are mounting a concerted campaign to get rid of him.

As he is elected by the constituency section of Labour's electoral college — the left's traditional bastion — their chances of success are high, and if Gould does scrape home it will be only by the skin of his teeth. All in all, the results of the NEC elections could look extremely bad for Kinnock, whose authority has already been badly dented in recent days. His employment spokesman, Michael Meacher, who tried to rewrite Labour's attitude to union laws, is another ally facing removal from the NEC in the constituency section. Likely replacements for him and Gould are Eric Heffer, who is basing his deputy leadership campaign on the idea that Kinnock has "sold out" socialism, and the left's London standard-bearer, Diane Abbott.

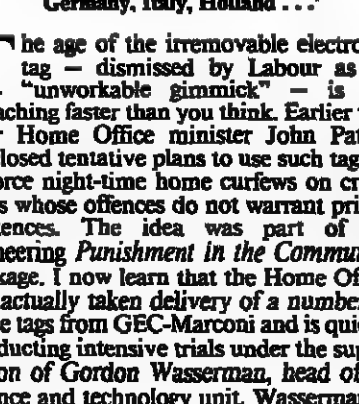
In the women's section of the NEC Kinnock moderates Anne Davis and Renee Short have been targeted for replacement by the likes of Joan Maynard, long known in Labour circles as "Stalin's granny".

Talking of "yuppification", it was Arthur Scargill who in a well-reported speech on Sunday demanded that the Labour leadership throw away "the Filofaxes" and "yuppy answers" and embrace true socialism. Was he aware, I wonder, that the previous week a senior member of his own office had rung the marketing unit at Labour's Walworth Road headquarters to suggest, very seriously, that the party produce for the Labour movement its own Filofax, information pages giving office holders, telephone numbers, dates and so on? "We're grateful to the NUM for giving us such a good idea," said a Labour spokesman yesterday.

Small wonder that Mrs Thatcher has managed to visit Liverpool only three times in the past 10 years. It seems that some of her ministers do not know where it is. Industry minister John Birtcher has just written to a Liverpool MP saying his Department uses its Liverpool and Manchester offices to dispense advice to industry "in the North East Region".

The tide is flowing for Paddy Ashdown, the clear favourite for the leadership of the SLD. He drew Holland to win the European football championships in the SLD's parliamentary sweepstakes and is now collecting £20 from his party colleagues. As becomes a Methodist lay preacher, his rival for the leadership, Alan Beith, did not enter. But Ashdown's most disaffected colleagues must have been Archie Kirkwood and Mrs Ray Michie, the Scottish MPs who had the misfortune to draw England.

BARRY FANTONI



"We'll be able to queue in France, Germany, Italy, Holland..."

The age of the irremovable electronic tag — dismissed by Labour as an "unworkable gimmick" — is approaching faster than you think. Earlier this year Home Office minister John Patten disclosed tentative plans to use such tags to enforce night-time home curfews on criminals whose offences do not warrant prison sentences. The idea was part of his pioneering *Punishment in the Community* package. I now learn that the Home Office has actually taken delivery of a number of these tags from GEC-Marconi and is quickly conducting intensive trials under the supervision of Gordon Wasserman, head of its science and technology unit. Wasserman is not using criminals for guinea pigs. He's using fellow civil servants.

The Scottish Office denies my assertion that it has commissioned design consultants Wolff Olins to give it a new dynamic image. Several agencies have been asked to submit proposals and only then will one be selected, it says. I am happy to put the record straight, but it will do nothing to diminish the anger of Scottish Labour MPs who believe public funds are being used for "blatant political advertising".

The Prime Minister's reluctant review of the National Health Service is being conducted behind doors that are firmly locked to all but a very small group. The smoke signals emerging from the chimney, however, are getting stronger and suggest she is likely to miss the best opportunity there has been for a generation to provide Britain with a system which will deliver to all of us the level of modern health care we now have a right to expect.

If that tragedy is allowed to happen it will be one more victory for the ghost of Aneurin Bevan — and one more defeat for the British people. Health Ministers as diverse as Richard Crossman and Enoch Powell recognized the problems long ago but the mere contemplation of significant reform of Bevan's flawed structure has always been, in Powell's words, "enough to damp the stoutest political heart".

If Mrs Thatcher continues to be daunted, it will be the greatest demonstration in its 40-year history of the potency of the NHS myth. With her record of achievement since 1979 justly reflected in the strength of the support she and her government continue to enjoy, and boosted by the special bonus of a collection of opposition parties in disarray and unelectable, she now has an opportunity which has never come near to the grasp of any other British politician. If it is missed now it will not quickly recur.

Every British government has tried to reform the NHS but none has had the courage to

change its basic structure. Since Attlee set up his prime ministerial committee to review the NHS only months after its launch, there has been an almost non-stop succession of reviews, committees, royal commissions and white papers. It is disturbing that the smoke signals suggest that the Thatcher review will join that dismal procession.

The refusal to recognize the fundamental flaws in the particular formula adopted by Aneurin Bevan in 1946 is a remarkable phenomenon, not least because they were identified at the time — and have been abundantly demonstrated ever since. All political parties (although not the British Medical Association) agreed on the post-war need for a health service which was comprehensive and national, and this was spelt out in the 1944 white paper of the coalition government introduced by Henry Willink, the Conservative Health Minister. It was Bevan's proposal to "nationalize" the hospitals which was controversial.

A number of his cabinet colleagues saw the dangers and Herbert Morrison, a strong supporter of the established Labour Party policy of locally-controlled hospitals, warned that it would

Ray Whitney advocates major reforms in health care now

Still bewitched by Bevan



Morrison: local champion



Powell: 'Daunting...'

create bureaucratic over-centralization. Bevan acknowledged the risk but countered that "the problems that will arise should not be incapable of solution". Forty years of tinkering has proved him wrong.

We still have a system which, despite the near 40 per cent rise in spending since 1979, is falling behind the levels of health care achieved in other industrialized countries — of which the long queues for hospital treatment are only the most obvious symptom. Ministers feel baffled because few of them have faced up to the implications of the increasing demand for health care — caused by our ageing population, the expense of new treatments and, above all, the sharply higher

public expectations. This demand will expand still further in the future, especially as the dams caused by years of holding down NHS spending in some areas will soon burst.

Most advanced nations (not governments) now spend significantly more than we do on their health. Britain spends some 6 per cent of GDP against about 9 per cent by the leading continental countries, but a more illuminating exercise is to compare expenditure against purchasing power parities: here we find that our spending is not very much more than half that of the French, West Germans or the Dutch. The differences are that in this country well over 90 per cent of it comes out of the Exchequer and that the closed

nature of the NHS system denies it any buoyancy as costs and demand rise.

While we may accept that the continental countries spend "too much" on health, British people are at last becoming aware of how far we are falling behind the levels of health care which are normal elsewhere in Europe and should now come to understand that this is the consequence of our different systems. To get away with closing only half the spending gap between us and the Germans and French would require a 50 per cent rise in the health budget, about £11 billion.

If we stayed with Bevan's structure this would mean an additional 8p in the pound on the standard rate of tax. These figures should be studied carefully by those who advocate a health tax — a proposal which would still leave uncorrected the other crucial flaws.

Many who understand that the problem cannot be solved by still more huge increases in public expenditure look for salvation in the growth of private health insurance. This is a path strewn with rocks, as the prime ministerial review team is reported to have found.

Although about one in ten have some form of insurance,

private medicine accounts for only a very small proportion of total treatments and it is quite unrealistic to hope that, unaided, it will grow at a rate which would significantly change the present situation. The promotion of private insurance by tax rebates would be inefficient and costly to the Treasury and would make the Government still more vulnerable to the charge of pursuing socially divisive policies. Most importantly, as we should know from experience, demands on the NHS would continue to grow rather than diminish.

A solution to the dilemma is available — based on proposals made by a BMA committee in 1970 (of which Sir Geoffrey Howe was a member) and improved with the benefit of subsequent international experience. Each individual would be given a government health credit in return for which general practitioners would accept responsibility for providing or arranging all necessary treatment. Local hospitals would become autonomous — just as Herbert Morrison wanted — and receive their income from their customers. Health authorities could be abolished, releasing more funds for the credits, which individuals would "top up". Special cover would be provided for the chronically ill.

A modern health service is possible. Do we have the vision? The author is Conservative MP for Weymouth & Portland. His latest book, *Health: A Modern Solution* was published earlier this year (Shepherd-Walwyn £4.95).

Conor Cruise O'Brien

Where truth must triumph



scenery" because of the existence of apartheid, kwashiorkor and detention, why should it not also be an obscenity at UWC in May 1988? None of the things that allegedly made it an obscenity in 1986 have gone away in 1988. And if it was meritorious to protest against such an obscenity in 1986, to break up classes at UCT, why should it not also be meritorious to break up classes at UWC in 1988? Potential rioters at UWC will ignore the argument of Jekyll-Tutu and retain the argument of Hyde-Tutu. It is all a pity. Desmond Tutu is a brave and good man, and sometimes a wise one as well. I hate to see him — well, half of him — in the onyx ranks of the academic boycotters.

The principal victims of the academic boycott, and the student violence which it encourages, are the black students. It is their education which is being mucked up — as Jekyll-Tutu perceives. As a consequence, something else is also being mucked up: the quality of the future leadership of South Africa, after apartheid has gone. I believe there are people in the ANC leadership who see that this particular strategy is self-destructive. I hope these can induce their colleagues to call the wretched thing off, before black third-level education in South Africa is finally wrecked.

You will understand that I don't much care for the doctrine that truth is subordinate to love. No doubt, in Christian theology, love is the supreme value; although in the days when Christian theologians held power of life and death they had some funny ways of demonstrating their commitment to that supreme value. In practice, it is a question not of some all-purpose hierarchy but of relative relevance to particular situations and contexts.

Should a bunch of Nazis come by, asking where they can find Anne Frank, truth should not be the dominant value in framing the reply. The same applies — generally under much milder conditions — in the context of our daily lives, when we skirt around the truth to avoid giving offence to friends and acquaintances. Politeness is always marginally mendacious.

But there are other contexts in which respect for truth has to come first. A university is pre-eminently such a context. To downgrade respect for truth in a university is to deny the university's *raison d'être*. If putting truth first, at a university, is "an obscenity", while there is so much misery in the world, by the same logic there should not be any universities. And this doctrine does point in that direction,

not merely in logic but in practice, as far as South Africa is concerned.

And not only South Africa. In Britain, too, this doctrine has made some headway, as appeared in the case of the World Archaeological Congress at Southampton in 1986. In banning the participation of South African scholars, on no grounds other than their nationality, the organizers of the congress decided that a directive of the African National Congress took precedence over the values of the world of scholarship. And the British Association of University Teachers not only acquiesced in that decision but lobbied for it enthusiastically. A notable example of what is meant by the phrase "the treason of the clerics".

A world in which universities had become functionally distorted because of political pressure under an ethical cover would not be a better world. It would be even worse than what we have now, because it would be more ignorant and confused than it is now. Dr Jekyll knows this, although Mr Hyde appears to welcome it.

Reverting to the Tutu terms of debate: love, with diminished respect for truth, would be even blinder than love is proverbially reputed to be. If you want to help someone, that's fine, but only provided you also know what you are doing.

When any one of us feels in need of outside help, we turn to a person who has been trained to cope with our particular problem. We do not turn to a person who claims to be exceptionally endowed with compassion for people with problems. Most of us would run a mile to get away from such a person.

For most purposes love and respect for truth are not conflicting values. They are complementary. And it doesn't help to exult one in order to downgrade the other.

© Times Magazine, 1988

Commentary • WOODROW WYATT

A licence to drink

The anti-smoking campaign has had a huge success. British Airways will not even let you smoke a cigar, though it has never been seriously suggested that cigars harm anyone. The case for smoking being the prime cause for lung cancer is not universally accepted. Sir Francis Avery Jones, the distinguished gastro-enterologist, for example, believes that the 10 per cent of heavy smokers who die from lung cancer would probably have died from it anyway.

Research shows that chain-smoking Japanese hardly suffer from lung cancer at all until they adopt a Western diet, either in their own country or elsewhere. It is quite likely that if cigarette smokers cut down their intake of food full of saturated fats and replaced it with food high in polyunsaturated fats they would not be vulnerable to lung cancer. Nevertheless, those who control the world have decided that the act of smoking is the villain, and not the diet of the smoker. So government health warnings fester on cigarette packets and advertisements. The smoker who lights a cigarette is made to feel as though he is engaging in something as sinful as a visit to a massage parlour.

Now the guns are also being turned on drinkers. Edward Pearce, in *The Sunday Times* of June 19, asks: "When will we have as serious and justifiably intolerant an approach to alcohol?" In advocating a government health warning on bottles of alcohol he cites some curious examples. Duff Cooper, who

admitted to drinking more than was good for him, is pilloried as an "old souse" dying miserably on board ship at the age of 64, though his biographer, John Charmley, describes him as "happy in the timing of his death. A brief twilight, during which his vital faculties were unclouded, was followed by a swift sunset".

Poor Winston Churchill comes in for it too. "The horrors of Churchill's early and devastating senility owed most to his habit of clenching and unclenching his brain with alcohol." When I was in the Commons I watched this apparently debilitated man making a pretty good fist of it as an 80-year-old prime minister. I only wish I could be similarly senile.

No doubt heavy drinking, like heavy eating, is bad for you. But government health warnings on alcohol bottles would never have deterred Churchill, Duff Cooper or other notable figures drinking more than most, nor anyone else. They tried prohibition in the USA. Moderate drinkers became heavy drinkers because of the illicit excitement. Violent crime rocketed. The age of the gangsters began. Even the extraordinarily high price of illegal alcohol had no effect on drinking and drunkenness.

The present enthusiasm for a new repression on drinking stems from the activities of drunken football hooligans and young people who get drunk in large cities and some parts of the countryside. By comparison with other countries our national

average alcohol intake is on the low side. They drink twice as much in France and 50 per cent more in West Germany. Nineteen major countries drink more than we do, not including Russia where, according to Mr Gorbachov, the drink problem is appalling.

In proportion to the population, more than eight times as many die of cirrhosis of the liver in France, seven times as many in West Germany and four times as many in Sweden as in England and Wales. No more than 2,500 a year die here from cirrhosis of the liver, and not all of those because of drink.

Judging by other countries we do not have a serious drink problem, but we do have a tiresome inconvenience problem. It is illegal for under-18s to be served with alcohol in public houses and fully licensed clubs. It is also illegal for retailers to sell alcohol to under-18s and it will soon be illegal for wholesalers to do so.

Not all nuisance drinkers are under 18, but a lot are. How is the alcohol seller to know whether the buyer is over 18? In a few parts of the country public houses now require some form of identity card to prove age to protect the seller from breaking the law. This voluntary system is welcomed by the Home Secretary. If it is good for some places it must be good everywhere.

The case for everyone being obliged to carry an identity card with date of birth, address and a photograph is overwhelming. For a start it would stop a lot of

JUNE 29 ON THIS DAY 1855



The Crimean War was not confined to land: the naval action in the Sea of Azov, linked to the Black Sea by the Kerch strait, threatened Russian supply lines from Rostov.

The LIGHT SQUADRON in the SEA OF AZOFF

SEA OF AZOFF, June 10.

In my last letter I left off with the list of the boats ready to attack Taganrog. I now proceed with my account. Our arrival so close to the town had evidently caused some surprise and great consternation, for the people assembled in crowds on the cliff and open spaces to look at us, and we could observe women kneeling down and praying outside the churches. Taganrog is built on a low cliff. The part we could see most plainly consisted of two or three churches and a number of detached buildings.

When the flag of truce went on shore the governor was not forthcoming. They said he had gone out of the town, and an hour was granted for them to send to him. At the expiration of that time he replied to the usual demand — viz, that all shipping and Government property should be given up without resistance, and that private property should be respected — that he would not comply with it; that he had a number of troops in the town, and could not submit without a fight. Accordingly, the two boats returned with the intelligence, and the flag of truce was handed down, and the boats advanced, our rocket boats on the right, and the French boats on the left.

At 9.30 a.m. the first shot, an eight-inch Moscovite shell, was fired from the Recruit; it struck the Custom-house, and burst inside. The Danube also fired rockets at the same building, and after both steamers had directed their fire on it for about half an hour, flames broke out from every part and it burnt fiercely the whole day. It was full of grain or other stores for the Russian army.

Orders had been given in the morning not to fire at the churches, but when the Russian troops were seen to shelter themselves in them, and to fire from behind the railings outside, the orders were cancelled, and shells and rockets, directed at the church in question, soon lodged the enemy. The governor's house broke out in a large fire, and in an adjoining building. While all this was going on a man ran down to the beach, near the Custom-house, took off his cap, waved it over his head, and gesticulated violently, until a boat went in with a white flag and brought him to Captain Lyons, who was on board the Recruit. When he first came he was so drunk as not to be able to give an account of himself. He was dressed in uniform, and when he became tolerably sober, stated that he belonged to the Commissariat, and was attached to the hospital, in which there were nearly 200 men. He said that the troops in the town consisted of four regiments of Cossacks. On being asked his reason for deserting, he said that neither he nor the other soldiers were well treated, and that he had heard that the English brandy was very good and that he wanted to taste it, and requested to have some. However, he was considered to have already had enough — at least for the present.

Disaster insu

From Mr D G M R... The legal process... in the House of L... on June 9 to accept an... the innocent Abbeyst... also highlights a... for insuring c... projects. With the... builders and... insurers, if disaster s... compensation can be... However, legisla... developers to take o... and all those invol... and construction mac... would often be av... innocent victims wa... presented very much m... Legislators and the... and construction indu... have a duty to th... the present... arrangements... only... Mr Kinnock, if t... himself today to



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MIKHAIL'S DREAM

In the space of three-and-a-half hours yesterday, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev outlined a plan which would unravel the fabric of Soviet government and establish a new pattern for its future. Not since Nikita Khrushchev denounced Stalin 32 years ago has the Communist Party heard such an oration.

He proposed, in effect, a new parliament and president, elected (if indirectly) by secret ballot. Out would go the old President of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, an honorary post now held by the elderly Mr Andrei Gromyko. In his place would come a new President of the Supreme Soviet, a Western-style executive — whose job might well be filled by Mr Gorbachev.

The Party Secretary criticized those who demanded an opposition party or changes in the country's internal borders. "We are learning democracy and openness, learning to argue and debate and to tell each other the truth", he said. Soviet democracy would not be open-ended. His proposals, however, went well beyond what most people had expected and, judging from the polite applause in Moscow, much further than the delegates were prepared for.

The party, he told the conference, should concentrate on the business of ideology — and leave the job of government to others. Although Mr Gorbachev is not the first to try to weaken the power of the party over the Kremlin (both Mr Khrushchev and Mr Andropov attempted to pioneer change) neither tried so openly or so vigorously, or put forward a programme of such scope, urgency and ambition.

Nor, which is more to the point, did either meet with very marked success. The scale and comprehensiveness of the Gorbachev reforms lead one, therefore, to one of two conclusions.

Either the Soviet leader is taking a big gamble, knowing that he risks losing political control during his economic reforms but realising that without perestroika the USSR risks joining the Third World. This is suggested by those parts of his speech in which he almost pleaded for success: "the people demand democracy, full-blooded democracy and there can be no compromise." Although in one sense he was offering them a compromise — in which democracy would be controlled and structural reform managed — he knows how easily his country could be destabilized by even that.

Mr Gorbachev's record suggests that he likes to chance his arm. But it also reflects a politician whose preference is to bet on odds-on winners. The alternative explanation is that he does not need to plead; that he is as

confident of success as a politician ever can be. The swift efficiency with which he replaced most of the old guard in the Kremlin on coming to power confirms the impression of a leader who prepares his ground before advancing.

There were long periods in yesterday's marathon address, moreover, when it sounded as if he was delivering a *fait accompli*. He had, he affirmed, the support of the Central Committee — and the assumption must be that the Politburo too had given his plan its blessing.

He has still not won the hearts and minds of of this week's conference. The ovation he was accorded yesterday was less than ecstatic. Most of the sporadic applause was reserved for those passages in which he dutifully paid tribute to the party and the country's commitment to communism.

It has been previously reported that his attempt to pack the Palace of Congress with his supporters was something of a failure and that too many delegates for comfort reflected the conservative prejudices of the party's grassroots. Even in the era of *glasnost* (some would say especially in it) it is not easy to disentangle the carefully planted lie from genuine information on points such as this. But it certainly appeared yesterday that, however solid might be his support in the Kremlin, the backing of the conference itself is not won yet.

Even if his oratory and lobbying prove successful this week there must be doubts about his reception in the provinces. To take a billhook to the Soviet party edifice and prune away the privileges at local level is to threaten the lifestyle and power base of thousands of party members. Reaction from the Soviet backwoods to perestroika is said to range from suspicion to outright hostility.

Now that their leader's thirst for change is shown to be unassuaged they must view his new proposals with alarm. When a leader of the Soviet Union complains in public that the process of democratization is too slow, it must sound even more astonishing to those within the Soviet Union than it does to those outside.

Mr Gorbachev has clearly dreamed a dream. By the end of this week it might be possible to tell a little more of how far and how fast he can translate that dream into reality.

The pace of reform which he is demanding is perhaps the most astonishing aspect of yesterday's revelations. To call for such fundamental changes by next spring suggests a very real sense of urgency — more the urgency of the last-chance gambler than the confident bureaucrat.

ISOLATING MR SCARGILL

It is not every day that a trade union leader puts in a good word for two convicted killers. But Mr Arthur Scargill is *sui generis* and he has thought it fitting to speak for the two miners jailed for the manslaughter of a taxi-driver when they dropped concrete on his car from a bridge during the miners' strike.

Addressing the National Union of Mineworkers' conference on Monday, Mr Scargill said he was proud to "pay tribute to the spirit and courage of these two young men." He thought them entitled to "a degree of sympathy from everybody about the plight they find themselves in", for all as though they were victims of a fate beyond their control.

If they were, it was only through the influence over them of the violent atmosphere generated by Mr Scargill's own rabble-rousing rhetoric. The mother of the dead taxi driver has expressed her anger, blaming Mr Scargill "every bit as much the men who dropped the block" for inciting strikers to stop men going to work. Mr Neil Kinnock, who is to address the NUM conference today, has declared himself "disturbed."

In the conference itself, only one or two delegates clapped Mr Scargill's contemptible remarks. Very many in Mr Scargill's union, not least those from Wales, were dismayed by this latest display by their president as they are by much else in his destructive policies. Yet he still appears to maintain his grip on the union which he has so long led on the path to its ruin.

He has bitterly attacked Mr Kinnock's "new realism" in the Labour Party as a malignancy. He has advocated every outdated socialist commitment from which Mr Kinnock wishes to retreat, from unilateralism to a hard-line leftist economic policy. He would like Mr Benn to replace Mr Kinnock as leader — though he is having to make do only with the NUM's endorsement of Mr Prescott for the deputy leadership.

Mr Kinnock, if he is wise, will not confine himself today to defending his Labour

revisionism in general terms but will seize the chance to confront Mr Scargill's personal brand of destructiveness. For Mr Scargill is also pursuing a policy which is threatening the whole future of the British coal industry.

The electricity generating industry now could buy foreign coal at half the price of British coal. When it is privatized, it will begin to do so. Furthermore, European law is being changed to permit the generation of electricity from North Sea gas, which is no longer to be regarded as a special precious commodity. In these circumstances the British coal industry must be economically productive to survive, which must include working a flexible six-day week.

To this, Mr Scargill is bitterly opposed, demanding instead four-day working within the present five-day agreement and a minimum £20,000 a year pay for coalface workers. To entrench his own power, based on Yorkshire, he wants to lead the union away from its federal structure by relating the votes of each area to its size. The fact that he failed to secure the necessary majority for this yesterday could be a sign of a changing mood in the union.

But the key test will be whether he succeeds on Thursday in continuing his union's rejection of a conciliation scheme in which the NUM would sit down with the breakaway Union of Democratic Mineworkers to which Mr Scargill is implacably opposed. If the NUM will still not co-operate with the UDM and the National Coal Board in producing a realistic approach to the future, including flexible working, it pronounces the doom of its own industry.

Very many NUM miners fear this and are dismayed. The question is whether that understanding is still to be subordinated to an atavistic loyalty to Mr Scargill, regardless of where this dangerous and fanatical man is leading them.

Disaster insurance

From Mr D. G. M. Roberts, FEng Sir, The legal processes culminating in the House of Lords' refusal on June 9 to accept an appeal now enables, four years after the event, the innocent Abystead disaster victims to receive compensation, and also highlights a major deficiency of our present arrangements for insuring construction projects. With the developers, designers, builders and equipment suppliers each having separate insurers, if disaster strikes liability must be apportioned before compensation can be paid.

If, however, legislation required developers to take out a single policy covering the whole project and all those involved in its design and construction, much expensive and time-consuming litigation would often be avoided and innocent victims would be compensated very much more quickly.

Legislators and the insurance and construction industries have, I believe, a duty to the public to improve the present most unsatisfactory arrangements. Yours truly, D. GWILYM M. ROBERTS, Joint Chairman, Acer Group Ltd, 25 Victoria Street, SW1.

Auction law

From Professor B. W. Harvey and Sir F. M. Meisel Sir, There has been much comment in recent months over "the inadequate state of the law relating to sellers bidding at auction" (Mr Walker's letter, June 23 and Article, June 16), dealers' criminality in "ringing" and other auctioneering practices. The law may be "inadequate", but if it is this is not for the reasons advanced by Mr Walker.

A fundamental point is that in chattel auctions very commonly the seller is a private owner and the buyer is in business as a dealer. Following the drift of modern legislation protecting the consumer, it is arguable that it is primarily the seller's interest, as consumer of the auctioneer's services, which is the more in need of protection from the predatory activities of dealers. This can be done either by setting a reserve or, as suggested in our book on auctions law, by expressly authorising the seller to bid himself, and only if, no reserve has been set.

As regards the point raised about the Sale of Goods Act, in order for a seller to bid, section 57

makes clear that he need only notify his right to do so, and that reservation of the right to bid in the auction particulars etc fulfils that requirement; hence the draft condition to that effect.

Yours truly, B. W. HARVEY, F. M. MEISEL, The University of Birmingham, Faculty of Law, Chancellor's Court, PO Box 363, Birmingham B15 2TT.

Postal misfits

From Mr John J. Galvin Sir, Despite my protestations, National Girobank persist in supplying me with envelopes measuring 162mm x 114mm. The inland Revenue on the other hand insist I do not bend their postbags measuring 198mm x 114mm.

I wonder how many other organizations find this circumstance similarly taxing? Yours etc, JOHN J. GALVIN, La Lorraine, 20 Grosvenor Gardens, Upminster, Essex. June 17.

Getting to grips with the EEC

From Mr Robert Moreland

Sir, The conclusion in the article by William Cash, MP (June 23) that there is "insufficient control by elected representatives over decisions" at European Community level appears to be based on a number of misunderstandings about the workings of the Community.

Mr Cash does not give any evidence for his statement that there is a "long-term shift" from the parliaments of the member nations to the bureaucracies of Brussels and Strasbourg. He gives no evidence for suggesting that there is a growing tendency for powers to be delegated by the Council of Ministers to the Commission. In fact neither of these statements is true. Indeed the Council is extremely reluctant to give the Commission authority even over areas which any member State would normally give to a non-elected body.

Mr Cash's understanding of the Community is further stretched by his statement that there is "far too much official secrecy in all the early stages of legislation". Yes, there is secrecy, but it is in the later stages of legislation when it is buried — not in the Commission but in the Council and its cabinet of secret working parties. Mr Cash could do democracy a service if he presses the Government to support the opening up of the Council debates on legislation.

Of course Mr Cash is right to suggest that committees of the House of Commons should get to grips with EC legislation. But no one outside of Westminster is stopping them. Indeed the House of Lords European Committee does get to grips with EC legislation and often produces very valuable reports.

Yours faithfully, ROBERT MORELAND (Member, Economic and Social Committee, the European Community), 3 The Firs, Heathville Road, Gloucester, June 23.

From Mr Rupert Blum Sir, The article by William Cash must leave the impression on readers unfamiliar with EEC procedures that European Commission proposals go straight up to the Council of Ministers for decision without opportunities for scrutiny and representations by interested parties in member States.

While it is technically correct to write of proposals going to the Council of Ministers, in EEC parlance the "Council of Ministers" is not a series of brief top-level meetings but a permanent organisation with a substantial secretariat. On the premises of this organisation, delegates from all member States, usually middle-ranking Civil Servants, subject Commission proposals to minute scrutiny and discussion with the responsible Commission officials. Having myself attended many such meetings during my 10 years as a Commission official, I can recall instances of such scrutiny extending over years and none over less than several months.

There may be a case for developing other forms of accountability by the Commission, but its growing despotism, albeit a benevolent one, mentioned by Mr Cash is a myth.

Yours faithfully, RUPERT BLUM, Prior House, Stoke Prior, Leominster, Herefordshire, June 23.

Lambeth portrait

From Mr J. R. G. Comyn

Sir, For most of us it would be unusual to spread out *The Times* and find that one is looking at a picture of oneself: how much more unusual is it, I wonder, to find, as I did today, one's great-grandfather staring out from the front page (June 23)?

John Moore (1729-1805), in the right-hand portrait in your picture, was the first, perhaps the only, Archbishop of Canterbury to have a child born whilst in office; he is also reputed to have kept over two dozen tame foxes in the grounds at Lambeth Palace. The portrait was painted by Romney. I am, Sir, your obedient servant, J. R. G. COMYN, The Cross House, Turnstone, Hereford and Worcester, July 23.

Marble Hill pier

From Mr A. C. B. Urwin

Sir, I note that the Chief Executive of English Heritage (June 17) is trying to reassure local residents of his good intentions about his proposal for a riverside pier at Marble Hill, Twickenham.

The intention is to "reinstigate previous landing-stage facilities". This is to be a floating pre-fabricated steel pontoon, while our researches indicate that the previous landing was merely steps up the river bank.

Yet English Heritage is the landlord of Hamerton's Ferry, also opposite Marble Hill Park. This comprises a barge and two derrick pontoons servicing a useful ferry to Ham House on the opposite bank of the river. This is an eyesore which English Heritage shows no sign of wanting to refurbish; it could easily be incor-

Different aspects of law's delay

From Sir Frederick Lawson

Sir, I have noticed recently in reports of trials for serious offences, other than for murder, where the sentence is mandatory, that the judge, after verdict, often adjourns the case for sentence to be imposed later. This was not the practice in the past. A verdict of guilty was almost always at once followed by a speech in mitigation by defending counsel and then sentence.

In my opinion the practice of the past was more humane than what seems to be becoming the modern one. A trial for a serious offence, followed by a wait for the verdict, must be an almost unbearable strain, which should be relieved by the judge as soon as possible.

The judges who adjourn for sentence probably do so because they have not been supplied with probation reports. In the past probation reports were included in the papers given to the judge, before the trial started. Nowadays this practice is not followed. Many probation officers do not prepare their reports before trial if they have been told that the accused intends to plead "not guilty".

In my opinion this practice should stop. It can be unkind to convicted accused and tends to waste court time. In cases involving serious offences for which only long custodial sentences or hospital orders would be appropriate probation reports are not likely to be of much value to the judge anyway. In cases involving less serious offences judges, on conviction or after a plea of guilty during the trial, often remand the accused in custody to await the preparation of a probation report which,

when it arrives, sometimes as long as two or three weeks later, rightly recommends a non-custodial sentence, which is then imposed.

I am, Sir, yours sincerely, FREDERICK LAWSON, 2 Harcourt Buildings, Temple, EC4, June 24.

From Mr Charles J. Lewis Sir, Lord Scarman now adds his authoritative voice, in your paper (Legal Brief, June 21), to those supporting the wholesale transfer of litigation to the county court. This will certainly have two advantages: the High Court, having lost the bulk of its work, will be able to pre-empt itself on the speed with which its cases come to trial; and the legal aid costs will be decreased, as county court fees are minimal.

But what we are not told is how the county court, already overburdened, is going to cope with the increase in its workload. A typical experience in the county court is that you have a case fixed for, say, two days. You turn up to find that half-a-dozen "urgent" matters have been listed first, so you cannot finish the case within the appointed time, and it goes over to the next available date, some two or more months hence, at which time one is supposed to go on from where one left off (in the High Court, cases run until they finish).

Sweeping the dust under the carpet may give the appearance of a clean room, but it is not to be recommended.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES J. LEWIS, 10 King's Bench Walk, Temple, EC4, June 24.

Council housing

From Mr Nick Raynsford

Sir, There is more than a slight whiff of hypocrisy about Nicholas Ridley's claimed concern to bring empty council housing back into use (report, June 23).

In the first place, it is well known that a high proportion of empty council homes are in that condition because of delays in carrying out repairs and modernisation work. Those delays are sadly all too often the result of Government cutbacks in capital allocations to local authorities, for which Mr Ridley has a major responsibility.

Secondly, Mr Ridley's own Housing Bill, now going through Parliament, will greatly aggravate the problem of empty council homes. Part IV of the Bill will actually stop councils allocating secure tenancies to fill vacancies on any estate which a private landlord or housing association

has applied to purchase from the council.

This ban on allocating tenancies will apply from the day on which the application to purchase the estate is made through to the point when the tenants' ballot determines the outcome, a period which is likely to last at least six months and in many cases very much longer. It is difficult to think of any measure better calculated to result in more empty council homes and longer delays in reletting property.

Mr Ridley should put his own house in order before making big pronouncements on the scandal of empty council housing.

Yours faithfully, NICK RAYNSFORD, Partner, Raynsford Morris (Housing and parliamentary consultants), London House, 271-273 King Street, W6, June 23.

Academic tenure

From Professor J. R. G. Turner

Sir, The redoubtable Professor Michael Levin ("Commentary", June 23) who stands up against academic orthodoxy will, right or wrong, be a man dear to the heart of all liberals.

Professor Levin lives in New York; in this country he would be a threatened person. Not only will the loss of tenure make it possible for such mavericks to be removed as the result of organised student disruption of their classes, but the provision under the proposed education legislation which allows the replacement of higher-paid academics with lower-paid academics to do the same job will make it possible for the university authorities to remove anyone as independent-minded and awkward as Professor Levin without any explanation other than that he or she is being paid too much.

Yours faithfully, J. R. G. TURNER, The University of Leeds, Department of Genetics, Leeds, West Yorkshire.

Waiting time

From Mrs Lene Orchard

Sir, The restaurant "call button" idea suggested by Mr Baldwin (June 15) can be seen functioning in the Feder Ode restaurant in Copenhagen, where I recently had a meal.

Each table has its own lamp, suspended from the ceiling. When waiting to attract the staff's attention, you simply press a little button, which illuminates a green light on the lamp — and the conversation is not interrupted for one minute. It worked beautifully and ought to be copied widely. Yours faithfully, LENE ORCHARD, 29 Burkes Road, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, June 15.

Springsteen concert

From Mr T. N. Guise

Sir, David Sinclair's gloomy review of the Springsteen concert (June 23) did not reflect the excitement of that performance.

Villa Park proved itself a worthwhile venue, giving easier access for people from as far apart as Exeter and Inverness and was acoustically well produced. The stadium has much to commend it for future concerts. Moreover the crowd, although vast, were well behaved and skilfully handled by the West Midlands police.

Mr Sinclair's gloom even leads him to describe as "lacky" a banner above the stage which may have been deliberately designed to appear as a symbol of the tacky fairground atmosphere in which one might expect to find a Tunnel of Love.

I remain, T. N. GUISE, 124 Wheelwright Road, Erdington, Birmingham 24, June 24.

Security risk?

From Mr Geoffrey Osborne

Sir, The necessary anti-corrosion properties of the stainless steel alloy plate in Miss Emma Andrews's leg (June 21) relates to its material formulation, probably EN581, which makes it almost totally non-magnetic.

The metal detectors in Downing Street presumably detect only magnetic objects and would appear to be less sensitive than at airports. Guns, however, would need to be made of martensitic or tool steel, which is highly magnetic and easily detectable.

Incidentally, most tibial plates should be removed, in young people, after one year to prevent eventual fretting and fatigue corrosion, and shouldn't she have had this done, or is she still on the waiting list?

Yours faithfully, GEOFFREY OSBORNE, 26 Waterloo Road, Southport, Merseyside, June 21.

From Mrs Bridget Pailthorpe Sir, Does Miss Emma Andrews's observation imply that weapons can be smuggled above the belt? My experience would tend to confirm this.

I have a metal plate, 4in by 6in, in my head as the result of surgery. No alarm rings at security checks. The only flicker comes from Customs at the entry in my passport, "Head partially excised".

Yours faithfully, BRIDGET PAILTHORPE, 35 West Street, Harrow-on-the-Hill, Middlesex, June 22.

Economic bar to healthy eating

From Sir Francis Avery Jones and Dr P. M. Atkins

Sir, For economic reasons the "grubbing up" of Sussex apple orchards, including the delicious Cox's continues apace, just at a time when more healthy eating is being encouraged to counter adverse health trends.

Incredibly, coronary heart attacks are now more common in Great Britain than in any other country. Furthermore, the earliest signs of change in blood and arteries have been detected in young people. While smoking and insufficient exercise are well-known causative factors, a great deal of blame must be laid at the door of the increasing use of refined and processed convenience foods. Many of these tempting dishes have not only lost essential nutritional factors but their added fat and/or sugar can lead to unwitting over-consumption with all its hazards to health.

During World War II, thanks to Lord Woolton and Sir Jack Drummond with their brilliant policy of "protective foods", with rationing, the health of the nation remained unexpectedly high. Ever since then, in spite of (or because of) increasing affluence, coronary heart disease has steadily increased; and so have certain cancers. A number of less serious conditions like dental caries remain uncomfortably prevalent.

At a recent conference on child nutrition in London organised by the Coronary Prevention Group, based on the DHSS survey of schoolchildren's food intake in the UK, Professor Michael Crawford reported that by substituting half the "junk" food with fresh fruit and vegetables, the diet could achieve a healthy balance. This could go far to prevent the rising generation from perpetuating our present disgraceful international record.

"An apple a day keeps the doctor away" is still true. Even more so if we interpret "apple" as "whole foods" — salads, leafy greens, whole-grain cereals, many other fruits and vegetables, pulses, and of course apples — all protective foods (there are others too). English apples please! How else can we get smaller apples, more appropriate for the school and for mother's purse? How else can we enjoy the rich varieties of our own countryside?

How appropriate if our return to healthy eating could be spearheaded by this old English adage.

Yours faithfully, F. AVERY JONES, PAULA ATKINS, Mill House, Nethbourne, Pulborough, West Sussex, June 18.

Broadcasting curbs

From Mr David Kemp, QC

Sir, Some interesting suggestions were floated in Mr Hurd's speech ("Hurd may scrap TV licence in broadcasting shake-up") reported in your issue today (June 23). One suggestion, however, seems ill-advised and the sooner it sinks to the bottom the better. He asks whether it would be possible to envisage a quality threshold embodied in a contract enforceable by the courts.

Judges are well able to determine defined justiciable issues, and do so to general satisfaction. They can also, by judicial review, ensure that statutory bodies perform the duties laid upon them. But judges are not well suited to decide whether broadcast material is of adequate quality. Judgments of that nature are better left to persons with a wide range of experience and qualifications, selected to represent a broad cross-section of society.

Although opinions may differ as to scope of the duties which should be imposed on the governors of the BBC and on the members of the Independent Broadcasting Authority, it is difficult to see in what respects the courts are better suited to carry out such duties. Yours faithfully, DAVID KEMP, Gray's Inn Chambers, Gray's Inn, WCI.

Safety in numbers

From Mrs B. Tahourdin

Sir, Why are law-abiding readers of *The Times* capable only of animosity and snidery on the subject of traffic wardens — legitimate defenders of law and order on our city streets (letters, June 15, 20, 22, 24)?

I would welcome more and stricter "prowls" of traffic wardens. We might then be able to move round our cities rather faster. Yours faithfully, B. TAHOUDIN, 2 Twyford Avenue, Acton, W3.

Clamped van

From Mrs Michele Clegg

Sir, A strict clamping regime or not (Mr John Derrick's letter, June 24). See Thursday, June 23, in Houndsditch, EC3 — a British Telecom van clamped, occupant sat on top of bonnet, bemused smile on face, legs crossed, newspaper in one hand, sandwich in other. I'm all for a fairer system.

Yours sincerely, MICHELE CLEGG, Director, ADL Design Ltd, 2nd Floor, 50-52 Great Sutton Street, EC1, June 24.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

PALACE OF HOLYROODHOUSE
June 28: The Queen this morning visited Jenders Department Store, Princes Street, Edinburgh on the occasion of its 150th Anniversary and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the City of Edinburgh (Mrs Eleanor McLaughlin, the Right Hon the Lord Provost) and the Chairman of Jenders (Mr R Douglas Miller).

The Secretary of State for Scotland (the Right Hon Malcolm Rifkind, MP, Minister in Attendance), Lady Susan Hussey, Mr Kenneth Scott, Mr Robin Janviri and Lieutenant-Commander Timothy Laurence, RN were in attendance.

Sir William Fraser had the honour of being received by The Queen upon his retirement as Permanent Under-Secretary of State, Scottish Office.

The Queen this afternoon visited St George's School for Girls, Edinburgh to mark the Centenary of the School.

Having been received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the City of Edinburgh (Mrs Eleanor McLaughlin, the Right Hon the Lord Provost), the Chairman, Council of St George's School (the Hon Lord Dundas) and the Headmistress (Mrs Jean Scott), Her Majesty toured the School and unveiled a commemorative plaque.

The Secretary of State for Scotland (the Right Hon Malcolm Rifkind, MP, Minister in Attendance), Lady Susan Hussey, Mr Kenneth Scott and Lieutenant-Commander Timothy Laurence, RN were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron of the Friends of the Royal Scottish Academy, this morning visited the Academy in Edinburgh and was received on arrival by the President of the Academy (Sir Anthony Wheeler).

Major Rowan Jackson, RM and Major Sir Guy Acland, BT were in attendance.

His Royal Highness, President of the British Amateur Athletic Board, presented the NCR Trophy for the Best Performance by a Junior Athlete for 1987 to Mr James Henderson at the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Trustee, attended Receptions at the Palace of Holyroodhouse for young people who have reached the Gold Standard in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme.

The Princess Royal, President, Save the Children Fund, this morning visited Cowgate Children's Centre, Cowgate, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Her Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Tyne and Wear (Colonel Sir Ralph Carr-Ellison).

The Princess Royal, President, British Kidney and Clothing Export Council, later visited McGee's of Scotland, Dumfries and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant (Miss Home) and the Managing Director of the Company (Mr James Angus Pow).

Her Royal Highness, after-

wards visited Pringle of Scotland Ltd, Victoria Mill, Hawick and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Roxburgh, Ettrick and Lauderdale (the Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry) and the Managing Director of the Company (Mr Graham Hayward).

The Princess Royal, attended by the Countess of Lichfield, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

By command of The Queen, the Lord Beaverbrook (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London this evening on the departure of the President of the United Republic of Tanzania and Mrs Mwinyi and bade farewell to The President and Mrs Mwinyi on behalf of Her Majesty.

CLARENCE HOUSE
June 28: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this afternoon opened the restored birthplace of Thomas Bewick at Cherryburn, Northumberland.

Her Majesty travelled in an Aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

The Lady Grimthorpe, Sir Martin Gifford and Captain Giles Bassett were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
June 28: The Prince of Wales, Great Master of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, attended a Bath "At Home" in Westminster Abbey this evening.

Sir John Riddell, BT was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales, President, The Prince's Trust, accompanied by The Princess of Wales, later attended a performance of "Aida" in aid of the Trust at Earl's Court Exhibition Centre, Warwick Road, London SW1.

Mrs Max Pike and Sir John Riddell, BT were in attendance.

The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, President of the Girl Guides Association, presented a brooch to Queen's Guides at Kensington Palace this afternoon.

The Hon Mrs Willis was in attendance.

The Dukes of Gloucester, Patron of Notting Hill Housing Trust, this morning opened the homeless housing scheme at 100 Lancaster Road, London W11.

In the afternoon Her Royal Highness, as Patron, was present at the Annual General Meeting of BLOT (British Library of Tape Recordings for Hospital Patients) at Drapers' Hall, London EC2.

Mrs Euan McCorquodale was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
June 28: The Duke of Kent, Vice Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, today visited Laird Porten (Fashion) Limited, East Kilbride and attended a luncheon at the Second Battalion Scots Guards in Edinburgh.

The Duke, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was accompanied by Captain Charles Page.

Birthdays today

The Duchess of Bedford, 68; Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands, 77; the Hon Charlotte Bingham, writer, 46; Lord Cornwallis, 67; Mr David Donaldson, painter, 72; Sir Frank Gibb, chairman, Taylor Woodrow Group, 61; Sir Rex Hunt, former governor, Falkland Islands, 62; Mr Justice Hutton, 57; Viscount Kemsley, 79; Mr Rafael Kubelick, conductor, 74; Sir James MacPhee, barrister and diplomat, 77; Lord Molson, 85; Vice-Admiral Sir John Roxburgh, 69; Sir Anthony Swanwick, former minister for defence and internal security, Kenya, 75; Mr Geoffrey Woolley, journalist, 73.

A memorial service for R.A. Breman (Dick), first President of the Wig and Pen Club, will be held at St Bride's Church, Fleet Street, at noon on July 21, 1988.

Dinners

St Stephen's Constitutional Club
The Hon George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, was the guest of honour and speaker at a dinner held last night at St Stephen's Constitutional Club. Mr Stephen Welsh, chairman, president, Mr Christopher Meyer and Mr Nicholas Twilley also spoke.

Association of Clinical Pathologists
Mr D. Mowbray, Director of the Management Advisory Service to the National Health Service, was the guest of the Association of Clinical Pathologists at a dinner held last night at the Reform Club. Mr G. W. Pennington, president of the association, presided.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R. Hughes and Miss L.C. Twickenham-Wykeham-Fleming
The engagement is announced between Roger, younger son of the late Mr Gordon Hughes and of Mrs Hughes, of Chesham, Lancashire, and Laura, younger daughter of the Very Rev the Hon Oliver and Mrs Twickenham-Wykeham-Fleming, of The Deanery, Lincoln.

Mr P.D. Manville-Hales and Miss M.E. MacFarlane
The engagement is announced between P.D., only son of Mr Timothy Manville-Hales, of Knightsbridge, London, and of Mrs Anne Fisher, of Collyer, Maitland, Northumbria, and Mary, youngest daughter of Mrs Margaret MacFarlane, of Angus, Scotland, and the late Mr Douglas MacFarlane.

Mr R.W. Biffis and Miss F.M.W. Parrell
The engagement is announced between Roger, son of Mr and Mrs W.G. Biffis, of Warrington, Surrey, and Frances, daughter of the Rev A.W. and Mrs Parrell, of Collyford, Devon.

Mr J.T. Bennett and Miss E.K. Dean
The engagement is announced between John, elder son of the late Mr T. Bennett, and of Mrs E. Bennett, of Gravesend, Kent, and Emily, younger daughter of the late Mr M.G. Dean and of Mrs J. Dean, of Ham Common, Surrey.

Mr C.B. Eadie and Miss E.C. Macfarlane
The engagement is announced between Christopher Eadie, son of Mr Christopher Eadie, of Alfreton, Staffordshire, and of Mrs Elizabeth Eadie, of Dorchester, London, and Emily Clare, youngest daughter of the late Commander A.E. Macfarlane, of Mrs Macfarlane, of Church Farm House, Oxford, Nottinghamshire.

Mr P.J. Smedley and Miss J.L. Manser
The engagement is announced between Philip, third son of Mr and Mrs J.R. Smedley, of Ayrton, Great Ayrton, North Yorkshire, and Louise, daughter of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Manser, of Sowerby-under-Croft, Northallerton, North Yorkshire.

Mr G.J. Mather and Miss C. Williams
The engagement is announced between G.J., son of Mr and Mrs John Mather, of Whitby, Yorkshire, and Claire, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Norman Williams, of Spurstow, Cheshire.

Mr S.C. Reid and Miss C.J. Smith
The engagement is announced between Stuart Charles, only son of Mr and Mrs Michael S. Reid, of Wimborne, Dorset, and Cassia Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs Edward Smith, of Crowthorne, Berkshire.

Mr M.G. Betcher and Miss C.L. Sutton
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs M.J. Betcher, of Morden, Surrey, and Clare, daughter of Mr and Mrs M.G. Sutton, of New Malden, Surrey.

Mr D.G. Sharp and Miss S.A. Chivers
The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr and Mrs Glyn Sharp, of New Malden, Surrey, and Annabel, daughter of the late Mr John Chivers and Mrs Judith Chivers, of Impington, Cambridge.

Mr F. Lundy and Miss F.M. Greig
The marriage took place quietly on Sunday, June 27, at 10.30, in High Wycombe, between Mr Peter Lundy and Miss Felicia Mary Greig.

Mr L.A. Smith and Miss S.H. Hall
The marriage took place on June 25, 1988, at St Peter's Church, Ighiteam, Kent, between Mr Lloyd Smith, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Peter Smith, of Ighiteam, and Miss Suzanne Hall, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Alfred Hall, also of Ighiteam. The Rev Bertie Talbot officiated.

The bride was attended by Miss Susan Dellar, Miss Jacqueline Johnson, Mrs Karen Paton, Miss Sarah Willingham and Roxana Walker. Mr Richard Smith was best man and the bridesmaids were Misses Mary and Gary Smith and Mr Andrew Smith.

A reception was held at Mulberry Hill, Rectory Lane, Ighiteam, and the honeymoon is being spent in the Seychelles.

Mr M.A. Tippetts and Miss Y. Yoo
The marriage took place on Tuesday, June 28, at 3.30, in Pavilion Road, between Mr Mark Arnold Tippetts and Miss Yoo Yoon. Their address will be 7E Jade Heights, Reliance Garden, Sha Tin, NT, Hong Kong.

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Marriages

Mr C.G. Bostford and Miss V.C. Brooks
The marriage took place on Saturday, at the Church of St Mary and St Edward, Barrow Gurney, of Mr Charles Bostford, elder son of the late Mr Robert Bostford and of Mrs Bostford, of Barrow, and Miss Victoria Brooks, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Simon Brooks, of Flax Bourton, Oxford. The Rev Peter Willis officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Emma Brooks, Miss Imogen Banks, Susan King, Sarah Atwood and Alastair King. Mr Charles Bostford was best man.

A reception was held at the bride's home and the honeymoon is being spent in St Lucia.

Dr D.C. Crossman and Miss M.E.B. Whyte
The marriage took place on Saturday, June 18, in Buckfast Abbey, Devon, between Dr David Crossman, son of Mr and Mrs W. Crossman, of Bankdale Park, Wexley, Cumbria, and Dr M.E.B. Whyte, daughter of Commander and Mrs M. Whyte, of Manannan, Plymouth. The marriage ceremony and Nuptial Mass were celebrated by Dom Benedict Couch, OSB, Prior of Buckfast.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Dr Maybelle Tatham, Miss Crossman and Miss M.E.B. Whyte. Dr Jonathan Ramsay was best man.

A reception was held at the Royal Naval Engineering College, Devonport, and the honeymoon is being spent in Italy.

Mr F.N. de R. French-Hodges and Miss C.A. de Westendorp
The marriage took place on June 22, 1988, in Kensington, between Mr Peter French-Hodges and Miss Caroline Anne de Westendorp.

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OBITUARY

AGGIE GREY

Famed South Pacific figure

Aggie Grey, QSM, a legendary figure in the contemporary lore of the South Pacific, died in Apia, Western Samoa, on June 27. She was 90.

A figure of regal presence and formidable personality, Aggie Grey was known throughout the region for her unimpaired hospitality. She dispatched at the hotel which bore her name.

Her antecedents had a Stevensonian flavour about them. Her father, a Yorkshire chemist, had first sighted Samoa shores in 1895 from the deck of the ship in which he was serving as a medical officer.

Western Samoa was then a German colony, but at such a vast distance from the heart of Kaiser Wilhelm's Reich, the rigours of Prussian military bureaucracy were much relaxed, and the Yorkshireman fell in love with the idyllic atmosphere of the place.

He fell in love, too, with its inhabitants, and, taking a comely Samoan girl as his wife, settled down on his palm-girt shores and forewent all further ambition. Aggie, the daughter of this marriage remained, until late in life, the striking looks of both her parents.

She founded Aggie's Hotel in Apia in 1935. It prospered greatly during the war, when American troops were quartered there, and afterwards soon became an indispensable part of Western Samoa's commercial and cultural life.

Denizens of those southern seas were wont to consider life could not be sweeter than Aggie's and a meeting with its large-hearted proprietress.

Aggie ran the place on the intimate lines of a Samoan village, and until a few years ago, still performed Samoan traditional dances, there, for her guests. The quite remarkable esteem in which she was held was reflected in her being chosen to appear on a western Samoan postage stamp.

Aggie was a generous philanthropist, and good proportion of the profits reaped by her hotel found their way back into funding public works and sporting activities. Her Queen's Service Medal was an acknowledgement of her unique contribution to the life of Western Samoa.

Rumour had it that Aggie was the prototype for Bloody Mary, the robust protagonist of James Michener's *Tales of the South Pacific* (and of the musical). These claims she always vehemently denied.

Her husband died several years ago. She leaves a daughter, son-in-law and numerous grandchildren, all of whom helped her run the hotel.

DR APARICIO MENDEZ

Dr Aparicio Mendez, who was the figure-head president of Uruguay from 1976 to 1981, when the armed forces were in power, died on June 27, aged 64.

Mendez, a well-known Montevideo lawyer by profession, had the innumerable distinction of being the first non-elected president of this century of the nation which had previously enjoyed a reputation as "the Switzerland of South America."

He was hand-picked by the armed forces' junta which ruled Uruguay directly from 1973 to 1985 and when his five-year term of office was up he was simply replaced by an army general.

Taking office, Mendez made clear to Uruguayans he was there merely to interpret the armed forces' demands; his first official act was to strip thousands of the country's former politicians of their political rights for a 15 year period.

But when it was eventually held that Uruguayans rejected the terms of the draconian Constitution the military had prepared for them; the road was thus slowly opened for the return of democracy under President Julio Sanguinetti in 1985.

He announced he proposed to establish a "new order" under which Uruguay's democratic parties would only be permitted to return under strict controls in some distant future.

All leftwing influences and "subversive elements" in public life, including the universities, were to be first eradicated.

Shortly afterwards the United States government cut its aid to Uruguay because of what the Americans branded as "systematic human rights abuses" by the armed forces and the security services.

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Young composers Roger May, aged 13, from Swindon, Wiltshire, and Andrew McBirne, 16, from Portsmouth, and Neil Cutchpole, 16, from Suffolk, whose work was played yesterday by the London Symphony Orchestra in Make Music Live, a musical workshop for young people held in the Barbican, London (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Today's royal engagements

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, will present the Queen's Award for Valour to the 2nd Battalion Scots Guards at the National Trust's Kedleston Hall, Derbyshire, at 11.00, and dinner at the National Trust's Kedleston Hall, Derbyshire, at 1.30.

The Princess Royal will open the new Postgraduate Students' Residence, Hill Place, Edinburgh, at 10.15.

The Duke of Kent will visit the offices of the British Overseas Trade Board, today visited Laird Porten (Fashion) Limited, East Kilbride and attended a luncheon at the Second Battalion Scots Guards in Edinburgh.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will dine with the Writers to the Signet in the Signet Library, Edinburgh, at 5.00.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron of the Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh, will inaugurate the new Postgraduate Students' Residence, Hill Place, Edinburgh, at 10.15.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother will visit J. Barbour and Sons at 11.30; will have luncheon at South Shields Town Hall at 12.30; and will visit Newburn, Open Tyne Riverside Park at 3.00.

The Prince of Wales, President of the Prince of Wales' Advisory Group on Disability, will attend a conference on further

Bridge

In the biggest upset in the 56 year history of the Gold Cup, the premier bridge championship of Great Britain, R.E. Blyth's team of young players from London and Middlesex, all members of the British Bridge League's junior training squad, won a thrilling final against the favourites captained by G.N. Blyth. After eight boards played, the score was 2 up, but Blyth's team led 31 up. His team then lost 23 points followed by another 7 points to give Blyth's team a one point lead with eight boards to go. But in the final stanza the young team kept their heads to win by 6 points.

RESULTS: Gold Cup, R.E. Blyth's team (London and Middlesex) 2 up, G.N. Blyth's team (London and Middlesex) 3 down. Silver Cup, R.E. Blyth's team (London and Middlesex) 2 up, G.N. Blyth's team (London and Middlesex) 3 down. Bronze Cup, R.E. Blyth's team (London and Middlesex) 2 up, G.N. Blyth's team (London and Middlesex) 3 down.

Memorial services

Lord Taylor
A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Lord Taylor was held yesterday in the Crypt Chapel of the Palace of Westminster. The Rev Paul Ferguson officiated. Lord Shackleton read the lesson and the Hon Jeremy Taylor, son, read from the works of Lord Taylor. Lord Auman gave an address. Among other present were:

Lady Taylor (widow), the Hon Charles Taylor, the Hon John Taylor, the Hon Michael Taylor, the Hon Nicholas Taylor, the Hon Peter Taylor, the Hon Robert Taylor, the Hon Thomas Taylor, the Hon William Taylor, the Hon James Taylor, the Hon George Taylor, the Hon Edward Taylor, the Hon Richard Taylor, the Hon Henry Taylor, the Hon John Taylor, the Hon Michael Taylor, the Hon Nicholas Taylor, the Hon Peter Taylor, the Hon Robert Taylor, the Hon Thomas Taylor, the Hon William Taylor, the Hon James Taylor, the Hon George Taylor, the Hon Edward Taylor, the Hon Richard Taylor, the Hon Henry Taylor, the Hon John Taylor, the Hon Michael Taylor, the Hon Nicholas Taylor, the Hon Peter Taylor, the Hon Robert Taylor, the Hon Thomas Taylor, the Hon William Taylor, the Hon James Taylor, the Hon George Taylor, the Hon Edward Taylor, the Hon Richard Taylor, the Hon Henry Taylor, the Hon John Taylor, the Hon Michael Taylor, the Hon Nicholas Taylor, the Hon Peter Taylor, the Hon Robert Taylor, the Hon Thomas Taylor, the Hon William Taylor, the Hon James Taylor, the Hon George Taylor, the Hon Edward Taylor, the Hon Richard Taylor, the Hon Henry Taylor, the Hon John Taylor, the Hon Michael Taylor, the Hon Nicholas Taylor, the Hon Peter Taylor, the Hon Robert Taylor, the Hon Thomas Taylor, the Hon William Taylor, the Hon James Taylor, the Hon George Taylor, the Hon Edward Taylor, the Hon Richard Taylor, the Hon Henry Taylor, the Hon John Taylor, the Hon Michael Taylor, the Hon Nicholas Taylor, the Hon Peter Taylor, the Hon Robert Taylor, the Hon Thomas Taylor, the Hon William Taylor, the Hon James Taylor, the Hon George Taylor, the Hon Edward Taylor, the Hon Richard Taylor, the Hon Henry Taylor, the Hon John Taylor, the Hon Michael Taylor, the Hon Nicholas Taylor, the Hon Peter Taylor, the Hon Robert Taylor, the Hon Thomas Taylor, the Hon William Taylor, the Hon James Taylor, the Hon George Taylor, the Hon Edward Taylor, the Hon Richard Taylor, the Hon Henry Taylor, the Hon John Taylor, the Hon Michael Taylor, the Hon Nicholas Taylor, the Hon Peter Taylor, the Hon Robert Taylor, the Hon Thomas Taylor, the Hon William Taylor, the Hon James Taylor, the Hon George Taylor, the Hon Edward Taylor, the Hon Richard Taylor, the Hon Henry Taylor, the Hon John Taylor, the Hon Michael Taylor, the Hon Nicholas Taylor, the Hon Peter Taylor, the Hon Robert Taylor, the Hon Thomas Taylor, the Hon William Taylor, the Hon James Taylor, the Hon George Taylor, the Hon Edward Taylor, the Hon Richard Taylor, the Hon Henry Taylor, the Hon John Taylor, the Hon Michael Taylor, the Hon Nicholas Taylor, the Hon Peter Taylor, the Hon Robert Taylor, the Hon Thomas Taylor, the Hon William Taylor, the Hon James Taylor, the Hon George Taylor, the Hon Edward Taylor, the Hon Richard Taylor, the Hon Henry Taylor, the Hon John Taylor, the Hon Michael Taylor, the Hon Nicholas Taylor, the Hon Peter Taylor, the Hon Robert Taylor, the Hon Thomas Taylor, the Hon William Taylor, the Hon James Taylor, the Hon George Taylor, the Hon Edward Taylor, the Hon Richard Taylor, the Hon Henry Taylor, the Hon John Taylor, the Hon Michael Taylor, the Hon Nicholas Taylor, the Hon Peter Taylor, the Hon Robert Taylor, the Hon Thomas Taylor, the Hon William Taylor, the Hon James Taylor, the Hon George Taylor, the Hon Edward Taylor, the Hon Richard Taylor, the Hon Henry Taylor, the Hon John Taylor, the Hon Michael Taylor, the Hon Nicholas Taylor, the Hon Peter Taylor, the Hon Robert Taylor, the Hon Thomas Taylor, the Hon William Taylor, the Hon James Taylor, the Hon George Taylor, the Hon Edward Taylor, the Hon Richard Taylor, the Hon Henry Taylor, the Hon John Taylor, the Hon Michael Taylor, the Hon Nicholas Taylor, the Hon Peter Taylor, the Hon Robert Taylor, the Hon Thomas Taylor,

THE ARTS

TELEVISION

Sweetly talking

Biopic war flared across two channels, with the ghosts of Frederick Banting and William Tyndale slugging it out for the hearts and minds of the nation. The advantage of the former was that the lead was amusingly cast; of the latter, that it ended on the same night.

If a musical can be made from a board game, a mini-series can be gimmicked out of the Islets of Langerhans: those sneaky pancreatic cells that regulate blood-sugar level. The limply entitled *Glory Enough For All* (Thames) took us to the point, in 1921, when the Canadian Dr Banting first revived a laboratory dog from diabetic coma, through the injection of insulin. Best cast for a second-act curtain.

The road to canine bliss was hard and littered with was nymphs dying for a decent turkey dinner. Since these human diabetics have yet to meet their future saviour after two hours' suffering, Banting's tale would seem to be stretched beyond its natural limits. *Life Story* it emphatically is not. But the unexpectedly humorous and amiable performance of R.H. Thomson carried the viewer through whole thickets of square-jawed dialogue.

Though favoured with the face of the born martyr, Roger Rees gallantly failed to make much of *God's Outlaw* (Channel 4), a monotonous and finally stultifying account of William Tyndale's heroic concern for adult literacy in early Tudor times. "The people are hungry for the word of God" it was repeatedly explained between raids by the Bible Squad, but the lack of historical context (as opposed to mere updating) was quite as damaging as the tendency for expensive-to-film incidents to devolve off camera.

Under-funded and over-reliant on its audience's tolerance, the production fell back on an undifferentiated succession of plausible interiors graced by episcopal-elegant frocks.

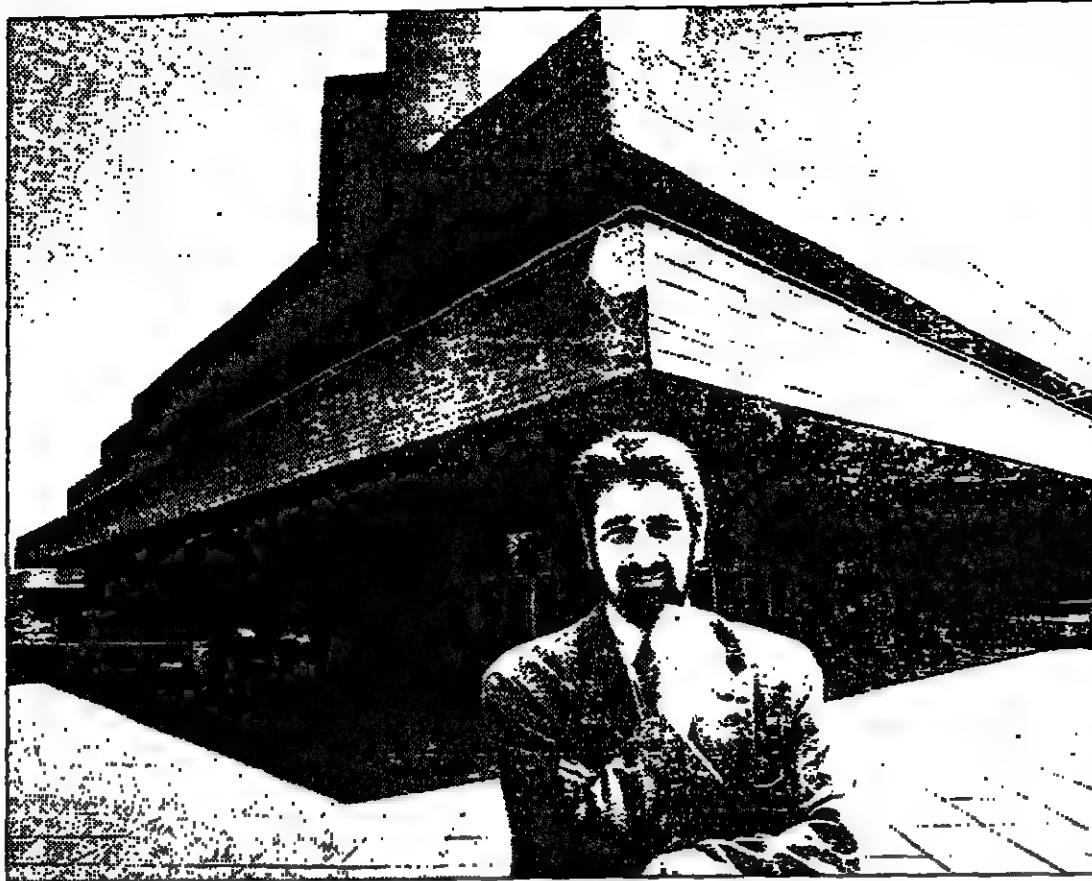
Biopics were formerly the province of Hollywood philistines gleefully traducing the known facts for purposes of entertainment. It is a lowering paradox that, when biographical accuracy bulks as large as in *God's Outlaw*, the result should be so flatly unimpressive.

Martin Cropper

Duo aim for harmony

David Aukin, newly appointed joint head of the National Theatre alongside Richard Eyre, talks to Sheridan Morley

JONATHAN WEAVER



Balcony scene: David Aukin considers his ideas for change and improvement on a National Theatre terrace

Behind yesterday's announcement of the new National Theatre season lies a radical shift in the power structure of the South Bank. For the first time in its quarter-century history, the NT company will be run by not one but two men, in a division of power first suggested by the Rayner Report two years ago, at a time when it was already clear that the organization had grown too large and complex for a single figurehead, even of Olivier or Hall proportions.

Richard Eyre, in accepting the role of NT director, made it a condition that he would only work in partnership with David Aukin, a former administrator at Oxford, Hampstead and Leicester, who for the last two years has been Hall's senior assistant at the National and will henceforth be calling the shots in the office as Executive Director, leaving Eyre the freedom to direct up to four major productions a year.

Several partnerships are envisaged by the Eyre/Aukin alliance: the National will be co-producing *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme* with the Théâtre National de Paris under their newly appointed director, Jérôme Savary; Brian Friel's new *Making History* will be done with his own Irish Field Day company; and Aukin's early experience on the fringe, in the creation of Joint Stock and Foco Novo, will be reflected in the arrival of the South Bank of Decian Donnellan from Cheek by Jowl, to direct *Fuente Ovejuna*.

Of Hall's 24 resident or part-time directors, as listed in the current NT programme, only Eyre, Aukin, Bill Bryden, Howard Davies (who has given the theatre its two great transitional hits with *The Shogun* and *On a Hot Tin Roof*) and Peter Gill of the NT Studio will survive, though Aukin is quick to deflect any suggestion of a backstage bloodbath.

"Nobody ever said the National had to be a branch of the Civil Service with lifetime contracts for everyone, and when my own usefulness here is over I hope they will be quick to let me go."

"But there is a transfer of power, and the ground rules are now different, for reasons not entirely of our making. Actors and directors alike are much more reluctant to commit to long-term contracts than they were in Hall's or Olivier's time, and we therefore intend to form just one company, which will function on both the

Olivier and the Cottesloe stages, leaving the Lyttelton with individual units for each show; which then means they can be lifted out of the repertoire and sent on tour or into the West End without affecting the rest of the scheduling.

"The Lyttelton repertoire will have David Hare's new *Secret Rapture* and Alan Bennett's *Englishman Abroad* doubled with his new play about Blunt, with Alan himself playing Blunt and Simon Callow as Guy Burgess.

"Then we've a very short new Harold Pinter, *Mountain Language*, which Michael Gambon will perform for early-evening shows before going back across the river to *Uncle Vanya* at the Vaudeville; and we also have David Mamet's new *Speed the Plow*.

"On the Olivier stage, Richard will direct *Bartholomew Fair* and then *Hamlet* with Daniel Day-

Lewis and Judi Dench as Gertrude, and Howard Davies will do *Lulu*, while at the Cottesloe, Anton Rodgers plays *The Father* and Tony Harrison has written *The Indivisibles*, about the Manhattan Project, for a cast headed by Teresa Stratas.

"Then we plan to do the three great O'Casey Dublin plays, with Peter Gill directing, and later next year we'll have Christopher Hampton's play about *Suez*, where he was living as a child at the time, as well as the Nuria Espert *Celestina*, with Joan Plowright, joining the repertoire."

Perhaps the only major disappointment in these early schedules is Aukin's failure as yet to organize a British premiere for Stephen Sondheim's *Sunday in the Park with George*, though that is still on future cards. His own managerial ambitions for the NT

include revitalized foyer and restaurant and bookshop areas, a peaceful transition of power and, above all, a rethinking of the National's relationship to the rest of the country.

Unlike Olivier or Hall, both Eyre and Aukin (first theatrically remembered by me as Malvolio to a Michael York Orsino, in a Michael Rudman undergraduate production at Oxford, circa 1960) have deep roots in the regional British theatre, and are hoping to create semi-permanent National outposts in towns like Bradford and Bath. The dream of 16 weeks touring a year has at last become a reality, and Aukin is now keen to focus all NT attention back towards individual productions:

"In a building of 600 people, energies are inclined to go off occasionally into other directions: what we have to do now is to get everyone here thinking about that

NEW SHOWS

The Father, by Strindberg, with Anton Rodgers (Cottesloe); previews from Sep 15, opens Sep 21

The Secret Rapture, by David Hare (Lyttelton); Sep 25/Oct 4

Bartholomew Fair, by Ben Jonson (Olivier); Oct 14/Oct 20

Mountain Language, by Harold Pinter, with Michael Gambon (Lyttelton); Oct 17/Oct 20

Roots, by Arnold Wesker. Before tour (Cottesloe); Oct 19-22

Exact dates to be fixed: *An Englishman Abroad* and *A Question of Attribution*, by Alan Bennett, with Bennett, Simon Callow (Lyttelton)

Making History, by Brian Friel, with Stephen Rea, Niall Tobin (Cottesloe)

Spillout by Graeme Garden (Olivier); Christmas 1988

Fuente Ovejuna by Lope de Vega (Cottesloe)

Speed-the-Plow by David Mamet (Lyttelton)

Lulu by Wedekind, adapted by Angela Carter (Olivier)

Hamlet, directed by Richard Eyre, with Daniel Day-Lewis and Judi Dench (Olivier)

The Plough and the Stars/The Shadow of the Gunman/Amo and the Paycock, by O'Casey, directed by Peter Gill (Lyttelton)

Indivisibles, by Tony Harrison, with Teresa Stratas (Cottesloe)

Ghosts, by Jostes Sobel (Olivier)

Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme, by Molière, directed by Jérôme Savary (Olivier)

Celestina, by Fernando de Rojas, directed by Nuria Espert, with Joan Plowright (Olivier)

Muffled response

James R. Oestreich reports artistic rather than commercial success for a new American festival

"The First New York International Festival of Arts, June 11-July 11, 1988," cream black banners all over town, the words rendered in crazy-quilt graphics that suggest the city's and festival's various attractions.

In its cumbersome complexity, the logo well represents this celebration of "Music, Dance, Theatre, Film and Television of the 20th Century": ambitious and ultimately unwieldy. The organizers have claimed that the 1988 outing is the first of a biennial series, but one has always sensed more forced optimism than quiet confidence.

On the musical front, at least the first week's turnouts can have afforded slim basis for continued optimism. Though some events were sold out, more were received indifferently or disastrously.

Unfortunately, one of the week's finest events was sold out (or so listed in all the programmes), and meagerly attended: a concert at the Museum of Modern Art by Pierre Boulez and his Ensemble InterContemporain, with mezzo-soprano Phyllis Bryn-Julson. The concert, the festival explains, was part of a private party thrown by Louis Vuitton, the other part being a gala dinner in the Sculpture Garden.

Still, seeing the house sparsely filled with invited guests, one could not help wondering why the



Pierre Boulez: superb as leader remaining seats were not allotted to conservatory students (no more hungry and unwashed than critics, after all) or some such, who might have appreciated the exquisitely performed programme of Donatoni, Stravinsky and Boulez.

One of the organizers' obvious problems was to make the festival more than just an extension of the regular season. Ironically, however, they did little to promote one distinguishing feature, a series of free symposia and lectures on the performing arts. The first discussion: "Does Technology Shape Musical Thought Today?" escaped the notice of several close observers of the New York musical scene and even some critics.

Its panel of composers, with the critic Andrew Porter moderating, had Milton Babbitt, John Chowning, Vladimir Ussachevsky and Charles Wuorinen, who began matters feistily, wondering whether we actually have musical thought today, or any thought at all.

Babbitt noted that the computer-musician Chowning, having moved smoothly from Boulanger to Bessie functions (only the two seemed to know what these are), represents a paradigm of technology displacing musical thought, and the conversation spun on with similar merriment.

Two concerts were cancelled, one with Luciano Berio scheduled to lead the New York Chamber Symphony, the other in the "International Competition Winners Series" by the pianist, Andrei Nikolsky, who is in a Munich hospital with fractured vertebrae. A third, by the New York Philharmonic, went ahead without Gennady Rozhdenskiy and Viktoria Postnikova, embroiled in a dispute with Gostkonsert over travel restrictions.

Their programme was given to two Soviet émigrés, Felix Krutikov, the orchestra's assistant conductor, and pianist Alexander Toradze. The Philharmonic's only evening devoted specifically for the festival (works by Berio, Boulez and Debussy) was led, again superbly, by Boulez, the orchestra's last music director and still its most demanding taskmaster.

Even one who harboured grave doubts that the 20th-century theme would be narrow enough to afford any focus at all must admit that it was telling to hear performed within the space of a week such landmarks as Debussy's *La Mer*, Stravinsky's *Le Sacre du printemps*, the Fifth Symphonies of Sibelius and Shostakovich, Boulez's *Le Marteau sans maître*, and Berio's *Sinfonia*, in the rich context of Janáček, Bartók, Rachmaninoff, Prokofiev, Babbitt, Schuller, Zwilich, and Schnittke.

Final verdict on the festival must await many more performances but, to the fiscally-trained eye, the early returns, however uneven in all respects, seem to hold more artistic than financial promise.

BRITISH FESTIVAL

Born and revived

Festival 1988
Gwyl Gregynog

A new British festival has been born. The helicopter on the lawn may evoke Glyndebourne, the evenings of Lieder and chamber music a Hohenems, the house-party atmosphere a Dartington. But the Gregynog Festival, in a huge and eccentric Victorian mock-timbered mansion in the closely-folded hills of Montgomeryshire, is already marking out its own distinctive character.

It is both revival and new production. Anthony Rolfe Johnson, in his week of concerts, restores music-making to a house virtually silent since 1938.

The war put an end to the regular festivals of music and poetry run by the Davies sisters, philanthropic spinsters, who used a family fortune built on mining and industry to follow William Morris's example in providing a retreat for arts and crafts. Adrian Boult conducted regularly, George Bernard Shaw was a frequent visitor.

Walford Davies presided in the early 1930s, bringing Bach into territory where Handel had reigned supreme; and it was with the St John Passion that the new Gregynog began on Sunday.

The small imported London choir had been drilled by Rolfe Johnson into singing of vigorous purpose, meshing powerfully with the playing of the Northern Chamber Orchestra.

Baroque violins, gamba and

theorbo were used as obligato soloists, most effectively in the arias sung by Catherine Wyn-Rogers and John Mark Ainsley. But the most compelling aspect of the performance was Rolfe Johnson's own dual function as conductor and Evangelist.

Cue and response, action and reflection succeeded each other with urgent narrative excitement. Arias were paced with the sympathetic breath of a fellow singer (the other soloists were Lorna Anderson and Bryn Terfel).

When Joyce Grenfell visited the festival, in its earliest days, she described the atmosphere of the house as "cool, correct and daunting". Much to the delight of the University of Wales, who now own the building, and to the glee of Mid-Wales Development, its corridors are alive with visitors.

Undeterred by the late cancellation of an indisposed Robert Holl, a near-capacity audience came to hear Benjamin Luxon sing on Monday night. Distant sheep bleating, birdsong, and many a nod and a wink, contributed to a performance which had to compensate for lack of printed programmes and an audience for whom the repertoire was largely unfamiliar.

A gentle Schubertiade was followed by a more persuasive Warlock chat-show, ending with a roistering tavern song, which would doubtless have made the temperate Davies sisters spin in their graves.

Hilary Finch

Woman possessed by a demon

OPERA

Elektra
Covent Garden

Whatever strange things are happening at Earls Court, this is where the real operatic action is, and how! On Monday night Gwyneth Jones returned to the Royal Opera's classic *Elektra*, no longer as Chrysothemis but now, with a triumphant inevitability, as Elektra herself. And it was Elektra herself we seemed to hear in this overwhelming performance, which lacked nothing in vocal or dramatic power from beginning to end.

Quite unlike the Elektra of her own Chrysothemis performances, Birgit Nilsson, Jones presents a woman who never gloats, is never gleeful in her taunting of Clytemnestra, never relaxes for a moment into mere happiness at the return of Orestes. She never smiles, for the simple reason that she is too appalled not only by the evil around her but also by her own reactions and behaviour.

Looking out from a face made up starkly in white, she ranges from wild-eyed terror to nervous care, alert to horrors within herself as well as outside. Similarly her most violent movements—an extraordinary savage, sensual undulation along the wall when she at last recognizes Orestes, and an electric twitching as the final dance begins to move within her—are the movements of a body suddenly captured by a demon that the mind has been trying to keep at bay.



Alike in attack and effectiveness: Helga Dernesch (left) as Clytemnestra and Gwyneth Jones as Elektra

Where that demon reveals itself continuously, of course, is in the singing. Everything in Jones's voice equips her exactly for this performance, but especially those high fortissimos that are perfectly controlled to scald the ear like burning ice, at once fiercely impassioned and dead cold: her ability to go on flinging out these yells of the id, while always radiantly singing and not shrieking, is something on the scale of Elektra's own superhumanity.

Power is not her only weapon. There is also the dark principal

language of her interpretation, at once threatening and threatened: there is also a weird, moonlit sensuality and an uneasy repose.

This is a performance that fires rather than overshadows everyone else on stage. Ruth Falcon is a brilliant and abundantly beautiful Chrysothemis, bursting with the natural feeling that Elektra has abandoned, and Helga Dernesch contrives to sing very nearly all of Clytemnestra's part, with only one move, and that effective, into a scowling Sprechgesang.

Willard White is sombre but

absolutely clear, making every one of Orestes's pronouncements tell, and Kenneth Woolam makes a strong house debut as Agasthes: again this is a rounded, sung performance and not a caricature. The magnificent orchestral performance is conducted by Gerd Albrecht, who does not pounce on the music with Soltian intensity but instead allows it to erupt of its own accord, and show off its superb array of harsh, black, base and metallic colours.

Paul Griffiths

Classical tradition leads

Scharoun Ensemble
Berlin
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Members of the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, playing together as a chamber group, have named themselves for the late Hans Scharoun, architect of the Orchestra's Berlin home, the Philharmonie, as a symbol for combining tradition and experiment.

Maybe the experiment will be reflected in their second concert in this hall tonight, but it was the classical tradition that informed their first programme, with two foundation works of the repertoire in Mozart's Clarinet Quintet and Schubert's Octet.

Both works found them eager to communicate their own evident pleasure in performance, as much for the sociability of Schubert as

CONCERT

for the benign elegance of Mozart. The latter began with an unusual sense of nervous tension to propel the music, not in the manner of the playing, but in what it was suggested lay below the surface character.

Its effect was to arouse expectations of something more vital than the charm conventionally associated with it, but of which there was still ample measure in the slow movement and minuet.

Except for an occasional tendency to equate expression marks with dynamics, and a formality about the finale that seemed to preclude any touches of wit, it was an engaging performance, in which the clarinet playing of Peter Gelstein had assured style and beguiling character.

That was also a distinctive

element with his two wind instrument colleagues in a succession of beautifully crafted solo passages that hallmarked the freshness and even urgency which the ensemble as a whole bestowed on Schubert.

On the one hand was the individuality with which each player identified himself, strings as well as wind instruments; and on the other was the care that had gone into balancing their contributions, one with the other, so as to achieve a fine homogeneity of texture.

A warmth of romantic feeling infused each of the movements, with a sustained vitality even in the slower music, and a gravity in the minuet movement that contrasted very well with the variety of character in the preceding variations.

Noel Goodwin

Woody Allen's
September

Denholm Elliott Mia Farrow
Elaine Strich Jack Warden
Sam Waterston Dianne Wiest

A Jack Rollins and Charles H. Joffe Production "September"
Costume Designer: Jeffrey Kurland Editor: Susan E. Morse A.C.E. Production Designer: Santo Laquasto
Director of Photography: Carlo Di Palma A.C.E. Executive Producers: Jack Rollins and Charles H. Joffe
Produced by Robert Greenhut Written and Directed by Woody Allen

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ITALIAN ECONOMY
AND FINANCE

FOCUS

A SPECIAL REPORT

Countdown for Italy as the dream becomes a deadline

The approach of 1992 is creating new pressures, writes Roger Boyes

It was a time for red faces. A group of distinguished scholars and managers, en route to yet another conference on Europe 1992, that grand vision of a unified market, was stranded in the middle of Rome Termini station, luggage piled up like refugees, paralysed by a strike of engine drivers, vintage Italy 1988. "Eppur si muove," declared an exasperated business analyst, quoting Galileo — and yet it moves.

And so it does. Italy, with all its paradoxes, its dynamic private entrepreneurs, its limping public sector, its millstone deficit and resilient growth rates, its workaholics and strikers, is ticking over well, and a fundamentally healthy economy.

But 1992, both a dream and a deadline, is putting Italy under pressure to do more than just get by. In a country as recently unified as Italy, there is a very clear understanding of the relationship between integration and the modern world. For Italian entrepreneurs, Europe is synonymous with modernization.

Faced with a small domestic market, it was always natural to seek out new customers to the north. The Milan and Turin executives have — certainly compared with their Roman counterparts — extraordinary brief lunch breaks. Not (as the Romans would argue) because of their deficient characters but because their thriving business is done with Stuttgart, Frankfurt, Brussels and Amsterdam where the *siesta* is unknown.

Economy of scale drove Italian business into Europe long ago but there is also a psychological willingness to accept European ideas as beneficial to Italy.

But 1992 has a price. Nobody yet knows how high, hence the rash of whither-Europe conferences with their soft throb of anxiety. The unification of Italy over a century ago paradoxically deepened the north-south divide, shifting employment northwards.

The unification of Europe may be quietly divisive in a similar way. It could highlight a European north-south gap (with Italy, Spain and Greece struggling to compete in services).

Or 1992 could perpetuate the traditional Italian divide, with the northern Italians doing well and the southerners sinking into an economic bog.

The Governor of the Bank of Italy, Dr Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, said recently: "Europe must recognize that

the need for economic progress in vast backward regions of the community is so great that individual countries will only be able to enjoy soundly based monetary stability if economic growth is evenly achieved throughout the area."

In other words Europe Inc must not only be able to compete with the US and Japan — it must also make sure that the benefits are distributed evenly.

The north-south gap represents only one level of anxiety about 1992. The main concern is whether Italy can equip itself in time to compete in the freer European market place. Nobody has any worries about the large private entrepreneurs, the Agnellis and the De Benedettis and the Gardinis who have long ago solved the European equation.

Fiat, Olivetti and Montedison-Ferruzzi move across frontiers, have complex European ownership structures but retain Italian management style. Carlo de Benedetti's much publicized assault on Belgium (in the form of the Societe Generale de Belgique) is only a fraction of the story.

Small Italian businesses, as Dr Ciampi pointed out recently, are not faring quite so well; their number is growing, their output, exports, investment and share of manufacturing sales (23 per cent in 1973, 30 per cent now) is on the march, but productivity is lagging.

The traditional small manufacturers — in shoes for example — are losing their competitive edge; they need to buy in new technology and

improve cash management. But there are signs of 1992 awareness: a rush of mergers this year, at the rate of several dozen a month, is an important pointer.

The hardest nut to crack will be the public sector. Italy has the biggest public sector in Europe outside the Soviet bloc and it needs its own version of *perestroika*. There are three related problems. First, the limited competence of the public services. Second, the budget deficit and, finally, the public debt.

In none of these spheres does Italy compare well with its northern European neighbours. The poor state of the transport system, the chaotic telephones, the legal and administrative logjams, the traffic and urban planning problems, the bureaucratic regulations strapping down small companies and labour relations: all these bite into Italy's ability to compete.

Between 1980 and 1986 output per worker in market services rose by 13 per cent in Britain, West Germany and France but fell by 4 per cent in Italy. That is the dead weight of the public sector — and in 1992, when the competition will be primarily in services, it could spell serious trouble.

The budget deficit is an echo of this: competing regional and special interests fight for a bigger slice of the cake and the government, constantly threatened with collapse, responds by baking ever bigger cakes.

Borrowing requirement is still way ahead of the rest of the European Community. And public debt last year represented more than 90 per cent of

national income compared to an average 52 per cent in the rest of the Community. Italy generates 19 per cent of the Community's total GDP — but accounts for 29 per cent of its public debt.

Debt encourages such frightening statistics, and indeed it is right that there should be some alarm. But the alpine proportions of the debt mountain disguise some of the real strengths of the economy. And, as is becoming clear, if the political system can be overhauled, those economic strengths can be winked out, like snails from shells.

The conditions for political and economic change are more promising than at any time for three years. First there is a government with an explicit mandate to reform the political system. Stable and firm government is needed if 1992 legislation — for example the changes in the banking system — is to be steered through parliament and coherently implemented.

The economic engine, as articles in this supplement demonstrate plainly, is in reasonable, even remarkable, condition. Growth rates are consistently high, inflation at about 5 per cent is under control, unemployment is high (12 per cent) but the signs are that it has peaked, at least in the north.

Signor Ciriaco de Mita's parliamentary term runs out in 1992, though even he admits that it will be a miracle if he survives. He has made a good showing so far, perhaps because he understands that his government has to be more than a crisis management team.

A government committed to reform (in west or east) has above all to educate, and Signor de Mita shows skill at this. The private sector, already sensitive to European competition, have kept wage rises down to 6 per cent. The public sector, fat as a Strasbourg goose, had rises last year of 12 per cent.

This year, as demonstrated by scores of strikes by teachers, doctors, pilots, train drivers and gravediggers, the public sector employees are after more. The prime minister will not only have to face down the unions, and the wildest strikers, but prepare the whole of the Italian public sector for real sacrifice.

There will be a lean three years as Italy gets ready for a Europe without commercial frontiers: few doubt that Italy will arrive in time, but the journey will be a hard one. Eppur si muove.



Michael Davidson

Italy, with all its paradoxes, its dynamic private entrepreneurs, its limping public sector, its millstone deficit and resilient growth rates, its workaholics and strikers, is ticking over well, and is a fundamentally healthy economy



Emilio Colombo, Minister of Finance and politician extraordinary with a new brief: to prepare Italy for 1992 with sweeping tax reforms

The role sterling has to play

Creating one Europe for capital will be a complicated task, writes John Earle

"Yes, of course," was the immediate answer of Ettore Fumagalli, president of the Milan Bourse, when asked if sterling should enter the European Monetary System.

Elected chairman of the Committee of Stock Exchanges in the EEC this spring, he believes sterling should play its full part in the

process of European financial unification.

"Europe today resembles in some respects the situation we faced in Italy immediately after the country's unification in the last century," he says.

"There were no less than four institutes issuing money. It can't have been easy to put all this in order and give it a unitary shape. The same applies to Europe: the objective must be to have a single discipline, and thus the same money, one central bank, and so on."

Signor Fumagalli is trying to infuse greater momentum into

the committee in mapping the way towards the integration of European markets. He sees the main problems not so much in stock exchange technicalities as in the harmonization of the different systems in each country, particularly in taxation.

As he puts it: "To create one Europe for capital will be much more complicated than one Europe for goods."

Ettore Fumagalli, aged 51, is operating from a temporary pent-house office in a Milan side street. Since December the Palazzo della Borsa has been empty, awaiting re-

structuring, and dealing goes on in a prefab in the square in front, while administrative offices have been rented.

No one knows how long they will have to camp out, as the municipality has not yet issued a rebuilding licence. The discomfort adds to the market's depression, already visible before the October crash. Some see as one of the causes the inadequacy of information given by large groups about themselves during share issues.

Signor Fumagalli goes deeper and points out that Italians, who save personally as much as the Japanese, have long been accustomed to buying treasury bonds, mostly short term, which still yield above the inflation rate.

"This certainly has not helped to form an investment culture," he says. Then, after unit trusts were finally authorized, people thought they could multiply their money almost overnight. "In three years one of these trusts became the biggest in the world," he observes. "It is clear that these excesses bring a cost."

It is, in any case, a small market listing 327 equities, whose price is fixed by call every day. Even so, two thirds of dealings are estimated to be

handled outside the Bourse, by banks. Reorganization is now under way, but not always to the Bourse's liking.

Following a government decree in December, a wholesale market in 20 government securities opened on May 26, independently of the Bourse, with 18 primary and 76 secondary dealers, mostly banks.

The Bourse in its annual report criticized the government's decision to establish a parallel market of no benefit to investors, instead of improving existing machinery.

Are other measures more welcome? Signor Fumagalli stresses the importance of two bills before parliament, one of which will regulate takeover bids and should soon become law. Another will define and punish insider trading, but approval is not yet in sight.

Missing from this horizon are provisions for capital gains tax, futures markets and, most important, any foreign listing. The last foreigner, the former British insurance broker Bowring, disappeared from the list in 1980. Two shares from abroad are seeking a listing, but have run up against the pettifoggery of Italian bureaucracy.

Isveimer Balance Sheet 1987

Newly-extended credit:
2,141 billion lire

Total loans outstanding:
7,559 billion lire

Credit activity in 1987 confirms the confidence that a growing number of economic operators have been placing in Isveimer.

New credit for 2,141 billion lire; more than 600 loans approved for 2,723 billion lire; applications examined in 1987 for 3,122 billion lire; all that can be considered as a very significant achievement.

The Funds raised for more than 2,000 billion lire confirm the importance of



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This development led to a larger expansion of Isveimer. Total credit outstanding and borrowed funds raised to 7,559 and 7,745 billion lire respectively.

Net profit for 1987 has been increased to 44 billion lire as well as own funds and provisions and reserve funds which raised to 605 and 673 respectively.

RESULTS 1987

HIGHLIGHTS FROM
BANCO DI SICILIA
ANNUAL REPORT 1987

	(in billion Lire)	
	1987	1986
Capital and Reserves	1,605.1	1,420.7
Total Loans and Advances	22,944.7	19,945.2
Total Deposits	27,842.5	26,023.5
Total Assets (excluding Contra Accounts)	35,133.0	33,181.7
Net Profit*	26.1	24.1

*After allowing 70 billion Lire for depreciation and 321 billion Lire for provisions.



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ITALIAN ECONOMY
AND FINANCE/2

FOCUS

A new supersonic
hope in the south

Despite enormous
financial assistance,
Italy's south remains
a problem, but there
are signs of hope,

writes Judith Parsons

The Mezzogiorno, it could be said, is fast sorting out the sheep from the goats, for Italy no longer has just one struggling southern block. Instead, a more complex situation is emerging that simultaneously produces optimism and despair.

Thirty years and more than \$100 billion later, zones of economic transition are finally beginning to dot the southern horizon. These are mostly along the Adriatic coast, in the regions of Abruzzo, Molise and Puglia where new technology poles like L'Aquila, Pescara and Bari are starting to grow.

But for the rest of the south, despite the endless pouring in of grants and projects since the Second World War, the situation is actually deteriorating, particularly in Calabria, Sicily and Sardinia.

Of Italy's 56 million people, 20 million live in the Mezzogiorno and of these 20.6 per cent, or one in five, are unemployed, compared to 7.6 per cent in the north.

Worse still, in 1986 the GNP in the south rose only 1.5 per cent in real terms against 3.1 per cent in the north, and again, the GDP per person in the south, which in 1983 was 62.3 per cent of that in the north, fell to 59.2 per cent in 1986 and is still falling.

The research institute, Svi-mez, responsible for monitoring industrial development in the Mezzogiorno, says that north-south inequalities will continue to grow. It predicts for example that by 1996

unemployment in the north will fall to 3-4 per cent but will soar in the south to 26.6 per cent.

The dismantling last year of the south's failed development agency, Cassa per il Mezzogiorno, and the creation of a new Agenzia per la Promozione dello Sviluppo del Mezzogiorno geared to financing projects submitted by regional authorities or big companies, many say, an open invitation to further mismanagement.

Given this background, the visible success of regions like Abruzzo is encouraging. In an unprecedented Anglo-Abruzzese week earlier this month guests arrived on the first-ever Concorde flight to Pescara. The Abruzzo Regional Council, headed by Gaetano Novello, made it clear that the region has plenty to offer investors in fields as diverse as berthing yachts to launching satellites.

The days when Abruzzo was ridiculed for its *campagnaro*—

Visible signs of
success are emerging

shepherds who played bagpipes to the region's one million sheep in the 1960s— are gone. Abruzzo is intent on integration with the north.

In 1960, it was the poorest of the eight southern regions, behind Calabria and Molise and plagued until 1970 by severe migration. In 1950 more than 60 per cent of the workforce was tied to farming. Today it is less than 30 per cent with the majority of Abruzzo's 1.2 million people working in industry and services, of which tourism holds much promise.

Today, the region boasts 15 per cent higher per capita earnings than the rest of the Mezzogiorno and has five per cent less unemployment.

Three factors have helped. One is the impressive network of roads and tunnels which cut through spectacular mountain scenery and effectively tie Abruzzo to Rome and the north.

A second, which makes locals nod their heads sagely, is that Remo Gaspari, now Minister for the Mezzogiorno and one of Italy's longest serving politicians, comes from Pescara, the region's biggest, entirely new town of 100,000 people.

A combination of a region-wide building boom, even in remotest mountain villages, and fast new roads will convince any visitor that something in Abruzzo is working.

Although Abruzzo has only six per cent of the population of the central south, it has attracted 20 per cent of all new factories built between 1975-85 in the Mezzogiorno. Much of this can be attributed to a third factor, that of EEC and regional grants for which Abruzzo qualifies under Law 64.

The attraction, of course, is Abruzzo's geographic proximity to the north. Grants and subsidies here can extend up to 70 per cent of the fixed investment along with low interest rates and employment incentives that waive national insurance contributions for 10 years.

As one manager put it: "The line south of Rome where the Mezzogiorno begins is now crisscrossed with factories taking advantage of incentives."

As a result Abruzzo is home to some astonishing technical advances. In the Gran Sasso mountain, for example, 1400 metres underground, is one of the world's most complex astro-physics laboratories.

A six kilometre drive into the dimly lit mountain dwarfs any James Bond set. Here, where money appears no object,



Naples: Slow progress, slums, earthquake casualties and poverty still exist in spite of the endless economic aid since the Second World War.

research is beginning on exotic particles.

Space and telecommunications dominate the region. Futuristically, amid potato and carrot fields stands the Fucino Space Centre where Telespazio has the world's highest concentration of antennae. 26 in total, which control and monitor satellites.

Appropriately a few fields away, Fatme, part of the Ericsson group, are employing local ex-farmers to assemble electronic switching systems.

In L'Aquila, Selenio Spazio which manufactures telecommunications systems for satellites, including the world's biggest antennae, are pleased

with the flexible workforce.

Alfredo Beolchini, the commercial director notes: "Three years ago our workforce was assembling basic electro-mechanical devices, now Intelast 6 is just finished, our US consultants placed bets it would not be possible." Intelast, close by, tells a similar story.

A visit to Fater, Italy's top happy-maker to watch diapers designed by computer, or to De Cecco to see 130 different shapes of pasta emerge from computer-controlled machines, all reassure you that no aspect of daily life in Abruzzo is technology free.

But some things are still best made by hand as Europe's

Site will testify. At Brioni Roman Style in Fermo, 700 of the world's most skilled tailors sit making suits entirely by hand for the high of profile.

Here, Sylvester Stallone, Barbara Streisand and Richard Gere know their measurements are top secret in the inevitably computerized files of Lucio Marcotullio.

But Abruzzo's main pre-occupation is how to encourage its small and medium-sized indigenous industries which, unlike their national and international counterparts in the region, do not have the recourse to the Bourse, the expertise and easy access to appropriate funding.



Dr Carlo Ciampi, Governor of the Bank of Italy, decrees an Italy where bribes have become essential to short-cut year-long waits for bureaucratic approval

The invisible
helping hand

"Wherefore are these things hid?"

"Wherefore have these gifts a curtain before them?"

"Is it a world to hide these virtues in?"

Twelfth Night

Shakespeare, of course, knew his underworld. The Italians too. In a country where the Merchant of Prato, Renaissance fiddler, is a local hero in his Tuscan township, frontiers blur between the white and the black economies, writes Roger Boyes. Even the government economists are asking: "Wherefore are these things hid?"

The first clue to the new respectability of the black economy is in the terminology. The scholarly journals used to be full of articles about the "parallel economy". No more. Now it is the *economia sommersa*, the submerged economy, a necessary adjunct to the legal surface economy (imagine an iceberg without the underwater bit).

The marine metaphor is a useful one because it acknowledges the role of the semi-legal economy in keeping the country afloat at a time of radical restructuring.

As the 1992 deadline approaches and more threatening noises are made about the need for *perestroika* in the public sector, so the lifebelt roles of the submerged economy will become more important.

Dr Giuseppe de Rita, of Censis, the statistical institute, defines three main areas where the submerged economy has helped overall performance. In the 1970s and early 1980s—when the black market really expanded—there was a trend towards the breaking up of big enterprises, away from the gigantism of the past.

Second, the increase in moonlighting—perhaps two million jobs come into this category—compensated for the steady growth in unemployment. This process exists in all high unemployment countries including Britain, but Italy has refined the methods to an art, worthy of the Merchant of Prato.

Moreover, wages of public sector employees—especially civil servants—are lagging behind those in private industry.

Not surprising then that some 40 per cent of the steelworkers in Tarento run farm allotments on the side, or that hundreds of state-run factory workers register sick in the month of October so that they can earn extra harvesting in the vineyards.

Regional politicians are frequently measured by their ability to win central funding, rather than their programme, or beliefs, and so the scope for corruption is large. The infection has spread from the economy to the political system.

A recent book by Professor Franco Cazzola of the University of Catania showed that of 504 cases of private industry bribing politicians in the past 25 years, only one ever led to an upheld conviction. That is the fast, dangerous current flowing through the under-water economy.

Reaping the benefit
of a unified Europe

Excitement, optimism, but a few qualms. The abolition of all barriers within the European Community is fast becoming the main frame of reference for any economic project for any ministerial or corporate strategy as well as the subject of almost daily comment in newspapers and television, writes Paul Bonnard.

Italians are looking towards 1992. *Il Norante Due*, as a fundamental turning point in the country's economic development and evolution.

In most sectors the dominant mood is one of almost euphoric optimism. There is also a growing feeling of Euro-nationalism, understandable after years caught between the United States and Japan economically, and between the US and the Communist bloc politically.

"1992 will be more important for Italy than for other European countries," says Signor Giovanni Paladino, director of the Studi Finanziari Research Institute. "Spain and Italy are the two countries that can benefit the most. If Italy has been slow, sluggish in adapting to slow changes, she has always shown herself very quick in adapting to sudden changes, like 1992."

"This change will force Italy's government to put order in the economy, to finally take measures to reduce the public debt and inflation. A country like Germany does not have these problems, but for Italy 1992 will bring great benefits. Like letting fresh air into a closed room."

Yet it is precisely in the preparations for the unified European market that some of the contradictions that exist in Italy's new-found prosperity have become most obvious.

Private industry, both large and small, feels confident of being able to compete successfully with the rest of Europe. The big companies like FIAT, Olivetti and Montedison, as well as the state-controlled holding companies like IRI, ENI and Efim, already think in terms of an international market, and in some cases are already multi-nationally structured.

Small and medium firms, for decades the vital salt of the Italian economy, learned years ago how to sell their wares and services on a world market, and have little to fear.

On the other hand, public services are decidedly inferior to European standards, and the massive and costly national debt, the inefficiency of the administrative machinery could create serious problems.

It is hard to believe that decades of official mismanagement, of bureaucratic sclerosis, can be remedied in four years. Not to mention the growing prosperity gap between north and south.

As Signor Paladino suggests, "politics will have to stop occupying the economy, and begin occupying itself with the economy."

A certain
fondness
for banks

The Italians have a lot of banks. For historical reasons the industry has developed at a regional level, leaving the country with some 1,100 separate institutions. With this in mind, it becomes less surprising to discover that—after the Americans and the Japanese—the Italians have more banks in London than any other country.

Inevitably, many of these are tiny representative offices carrying out little more than token business. But the big banks have a long history and substantial operations in London. With a break during the Second World War, institutions such as Banca Commerciale Italiana have been here since early this century. Others in this select band include Banca Nazionale del Lavoro, Banco di Roma, and Credito Italiano and Banco di Napoli.

The big banks carry out a wide range of business. They naturally have an important function in oiling the wheels of trade between Italy and Britain, so trade finance figures largely in their operations.

Some banks have also built on Italy's increasing attractions as a target for foreign investment. BCI was probably the first Italian bank to start up a division advising British and other overseas clients on Italian equity investment. This business began seven years ago and grew slowly as foreigners gradually overcame their suspicions about the Milan stock market.

Though most Italian banks carry out their own foreign exchange and interbank deposit operations from their Italian headquarters, the London branches are still heavily involved in the capital markets on behalf of clients. As one of the world's premier capital markets, London is the obvious base for these activities. Most of the big Italian banks in Britain can do operations from simple foreign exchange deals to complex instruments such as interest rate swaps.

The Italians tend to be conservative players in these complex markets, however, following rather than creating the innovations and avoiding the riskiest instruments.

Most of the large banks see further expansion as the next step. For some this is part of a worldwide growth—BCI, for example, is currently trying to buy a substantial New York bank. Most, however, see the approaching deregulation of European markets in 1992 as the major opportunity.

Richard Thomson
Banking Correspondent

The bank with a Vatican spell

Of all institutions, the Bank of Italy is still held in the highest of esteem, writes Paul Bonnard

In a recent survey, Italians named the Bank of Italy the most efficient of the state's institutions. Impressive, but not surprising given the high regard that "Bankitalia" as it is called in Italian journalistic jargon has earned for itself over the decades.

As government has come and gone and ministries and public services have become notorious for their inefficiency, short sightedness, and, all too often, corruption, the bank remained somehow on a higher plain.

Both the present governor, Signor Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, and his predecessor, the almost mythical Signor Paolo Basso, are models of economic insight combined with complete independence from the political winds.

"The Bank of Italy is like the Vatican" murmurs one of its top economists, "and the governor is the Pope of the Italian economy." A touch of irony, certainly, but also deep rooted pride in the most respected of Italy's institutions.

"Most of us economists spend our working lives observing, analysing and reporting on the Italian economy,



Raul Gardini: head of the Ferretti-Montedison empire was among those attending a recent audience by Carlo Ciampi, Governor of the Bank of Italy, to mark the Bank's annual report

Yet none of us is allowed to make public statements. Only the governor can speak out, and what he says is generally the combined result of the work of the 200 economic analysts of the Servizio Studi. This organization employs the cream of the economic and statistics graduates of Italy's universities.

Most of them could make several times what they earn in the bank by turning their talents to the private sector. But few ever leave.

The high point of the bank's work is the presentation of the annual report, usually at the end of May. In addition to 800

pages of figures, diagrams and highly technical text, there are the governor's final considerations, a kind of report card on the state of Italy's economy that often touches on political and social questions that are not of a purely economic nature.

After all, the Pope does not speak out only on purely religious matters.

The formal reading of the Bank of Italy's annual report is an event. The governor's final considerations echo through the marble halls of the bank like the voice of the nation's economic conscience.

They point out the current state of economic affairs, as well as possible future dangers and weaknesses.

On May 31, Signor Ciampi, the bank's governor for the past nine years, and himself once a member of the Servizio Studi, read for two hours to an audience that included Giovanni Agnelli, Carlo De Benedetti and Raul Gardini.

The "Salone Dei Partecipanti" with its marble floor, antique tapestries and red and gold velvet curtains, contained, as usual, 400 key figures in the Italian economy. In adjoining rooms, another 600 people followed the proceedings on closed circuit

TV or murmured quietly in small groups. The annual report is also a social event, to be there is to be something of an important cog in the economic machinery.

Italy's central bank plays a more diversified role than the equivalent institutions in most other countries. The Banca d'Italia prints currency, watches over and is leader of last resort to Italy's 1,000 banks, controls the monetary market, runs the treasuries of the state and the clearing houses, and in addition has the crucial job of being the government's chief economic adviser.

And there is the added factor that the bank is completely independent of the political groups that may be running the country at any given moment.

As Italy approaches 1992, for instance, economists at the Bank of Italy are laboriously working on changes in the Italian banking regulations that will make Italian banks as efficient and competitive as, say, German ones, in particular in the field of customer service.

As one researcher in this specific field at Banca d'Italia pointed out: "We can prepare as carefully as possible, in conjunction with the other central banks. But many technical solutions will have to be found once the barriers are down."

Newcomers to a healthier financial climate

Despite a difficult year, three new domestic banks have been authorized by the Bank of Italy after a suspension lasting since 1966, and 32 more applications are in the pipeline.

This might seem excessive, considering that 1,099 banks exist already, but 726 are small *casse rurali* or village savings banks often with only one branch, and many of the others are rationalizing and thinning out in preparation for the unified European market.

First of the newcomers is Banca Euromobiliare, a one branch subsidiary of the thriving Euromobiliare Financial Group, designed to complete the facilities offered to its clients, mostly heavyweight corporations and high net worth individuals.

Last August came Central Bank authorization, followed by the bank's legal establishment in September, and doors open for business in Milan on April 18.

"Something of a record," said Ciro del Bon, its general manager, referring to the customary snail's pace of Italian bureaucracy.

Speed is also a target in the bank's customer relations. "To a client who comes and asks when we can do something," Signor del Bon added, "we reply—to his surprise—today, or at most tomorrow."

Things have not moved so quickly for Bancor (Banca dell'Economia Cooperativa), a bank for the left-wing Lega or league of cooperatives. The Lega, whose 15,000 cooperatives generate an annual turnover of about lire

25,000 billion (over £10 billion), asked for authorization in 1986.

The third is the Banca Popolare di Genova e San Giorgio, set up in Genoa under the "people's bank" cooperative formula (nothing to do with the Lega) by some local businessmen.

The big RAS insurance company, owned by Allianz of West Germany, was also reported to be seeking authorization, but the company says nothing has yet been decided. In the short term, it hardly appears a promising time for new initiatives.

After several fat years, most banks' profits fell in 1986. Bankers speak of a fall in real terms of deposits, of rising costs, of staff and administration, of an uncomfortable level of bad debts and, in many cases, of undercapitalization.

On top of all this came October's stock market crash. At the same time, they point out, there have not been failures or rescue operations comparable to those in the US—at least, not since the collapse of Roberto Calvi's Banco Ambrosiano in 1982.

The Italian system has appeared more solid than the American. Against the trend, some banks nevertheless improved their results.

Outstanding was Banca d'America e d'Italia which responded to German treatment under its new owners, Deutsche Bank, and advanced net profit from lire 1.3 billion in 1986 to lire 35.2 billion (£580,000) to £15.3 million. San Paolo di Torino recorded a 8.6 rise in net profit.

Cariplo (Cassa di Risparmio delle

Province Lombarde), besides being the biggest savings bank in the world, can claim to have been in 1987 the most profitable bank in Italy. It produced 17 per cent rises in gross and net profits, the latter increasing to lire 212 billion (£92.2 million).

Cariplo ascribes its success to its strong capital assets of nearly lire 4,000 billion (£1,740 million), to remunerative share transactions, and to "administration and services"—it is a big mortgage lender, and collects taxes for the State in Lombardy.

A recovery operation that
shows signs of working

Nuovo Banco Ambrosiano, which rose in 1982 from the ashes of Calvi's Ambrosiano, also had a positive year, improving net profit from lire 42.4 to 43.1 billion (£18.7 million). Results have so far been held back by payment of lire 360 billion (£156 million) goodwill for the old Ambrosiano inheritance, but the last tranche of lire 52 billion (£22.6 million) falls due this year, so profits should consequently benefit from 1989 onwards.

NBA has been reorganized under its chairman Giovanni Bazzoli into a coordinated group comprising the Banca Cattolica del Veneto and La Centrale finance house. The recovery operation, it points out, forced it to look ahead of rivals in modernizing its range of financial services.

Among foreigners, Natwest feels its policy of operating as junior partner to a national bank (Credito Italiano) in a small retail bank, Credwest, has been

justified by events, whereas rivals like Barclays which set up on their own have had to retrench severely.

Despite a fall in net profit last year by nearly half to lire 6.6 billion (£2.8 million), Credwest is going ahead with incorporating the Banca del Comunitari Vesuviani. This will add nine branches in the Naples area to its existing network of five branches in Milan and one in Rome.

The alternative for a foreign bank wishing to establish a presence is to buy an Italian bank. Deutsche Bank for instance obtained 100 branches when it took over Banca d'America e d'Italia.

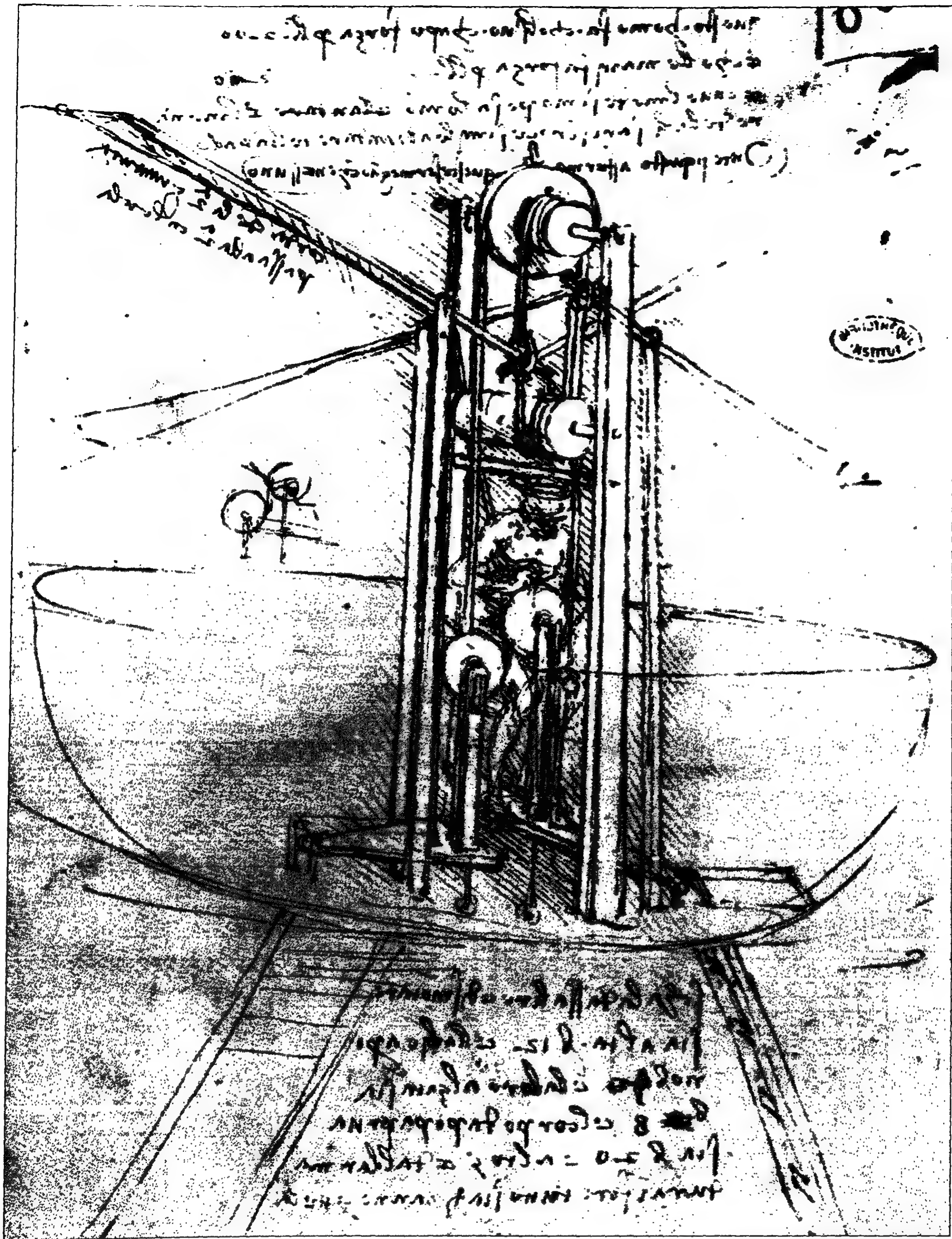
Are other foreigners about to pounce? Some domestic bankers speak as if a traumatic experience lies ahead, as their comfortable but in many ways bureaucratic and archaic system succumbs to an onslaught of foreigners.

The persistence of "a variety of inefficiencies" is admitted by the Bank of Italy in a white paper on the payments system—to take one example, out of town cheques may require up to 29 days to be cleared.

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John Earle



Mechanism of flying machine by Leonardo da Vinci.

INNOVATION ISN'T NEW TO THE ITALIANS. BUT WINNING AN AWARD FOR A CAR YOU CAN'T BUY YET IS.

In the recent 'What Car? Awards', Fiat won two accolades. The first was for technical innovation which was awarded to our stepless automatic transmission as used in the Uno Selecta.

Fiat also won the award for the best family hatchback. This was given to the Tipo 1.6 Dgt., a car which hasn't yet been launched in this country.

Plenty of oil in N Sea says BP

By David Young
Energy Correspondent

The head of BP's exploration division yesterday estimated that 8 billion barrels of oil were waiting to be discovered under the North Sea. To date 17 billion barrels have been found.

Mr Basil Butler said there was also an estimated 40 trillion cubic ft of undiscovered gas, equal in energy terms to 7 billion barrels of oil, enough to meet all Britain's gas demands until well into the next century.

Mr Butler told British and US oil analysts that there were probably no important oil fields still to be found, but there were small fields which could be exploited using new exploration technology.

He said the decline of the North Sea as an oil and gas producer would be much slower than the oil industry had predicted when it started operating in the North Sea.

"There is still a considerable amount of work to be done in the North Sea. There is still a considerable amount of money to be earned."

"But it is not just a question of re-assessing our reserves. The industry is making fresh discoveries, and we expect many more in the future. There is certainly life in the old dog yet. Considerable life in fact," he said.

Racal tries to connect with investors

Sir Ernest Harrison, Racal's chairman, is paying the price of his good fortune. The success Racal has made of Vodafone, its cellular radio business, has drawn predators such as Cable and Wireless to the castle gates.

Meanwhile, US investment banks have redefined the way such businesses should be valued, convincing the City that the telecommunications division Racal wants to float off as a separate company could be worth £2 billion alone.

The City has responded by sending Racal's shares into space but remaining sceptical enough to value the whole of Racal, including its security and defence interests, at only £2.1 billion. While the boosted price has kept C&W at bay, it has also reawakened the interest of Racal's once sleepy shareholders. They are now keen to make sure that if Vodafone is floated, no one else will benefit at their expense. Especially not American investors.

Sir Ernest's dilemma is that without the blessing of his British institutional shareholders, who are sensitive about pre-emption rights and wary of underpricing the issue, in the US just to ensure a successful send-off, the flotation becomes difficult.

But unless the issue is big enough and priced keenly enough to tempt US investors — the very people to put such a glossy price on Vodafone —

the flotation is difficult for a different set of reasons.

Racal has a tricky balance to strike. That is even before Sir Ernest faces the task of convincing the City that Vodafone cannot only survive the challenge from Cellnet and from the other new forms of mobile telephone technology like CT2, but that it will also escape the gaze of OfTel, which must be wondering about the ballooning profits being run up by Vodafone and Cellnet, its only competitor.

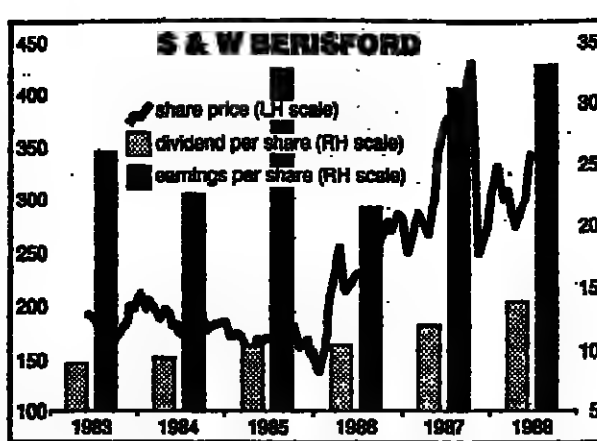
Millicom, the US telecommunications group which owns 5 per cent of Racal, is pressing for the telecommunications division to be demerged in such a way that the present shareholders end up owning 100 per cent of Vodafone.

The shareholders' revolt it is trying to organize has struck a chord with some institutions. Sir Ernest will have to spend his time until the annual meeting in August persuading the doubters. The cut and thrust is likely to make for a volatile share price for a while yet.

S&W Berisford

After beating off three hostile bid attacks in as many years, S&W Berisford can boast unmatched experience in techniques of self-defence, which it may need to call on again before the year is out.

Berisford remains as vulnerable as ever to a takeover.



Indeed, it looks even more vulnerable given that Mr Garry Weston's Associated British Foods still has 23.7 per cent of its shares from its last bid attempt. ABF withdrew its offer after the October stock market crash, but not before Berisford had incurred £2 million costs defending itself.

There is, in addition, an 11.9 per cent block in the rather more friendly hands of McJay Pritzker and his family, owners of the Hyatt Hotel chain. He acquired his stake for 348p a share from Tate & Lyle after its bid was blocked by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. The shares closed at 348p yesterday.

Under Takeover Panel rules, ABF can have another go at Berisford in November, and Berisford may, even now, be drawing uncomfortable parallels with its own takeover of British Sugar. It failed to gain

control at the first attempt in 1981, but returned to bid successfully a year later.

So Berisford badly needs to improve the rating of its shares by turning in some good figures, and in the past two years the group has come a long way. It has beefed up its management, both at board and divisional executive level, and the benefits have shown through in the results. Yesterday's interims were a pleasant surprise, encouraging analysts to shade up profit estimates for the whole year. John Mozley at BZW is looking for £102 million pretax.

Clearly the group sees the diversity of its operations as a strength, but it is hard to escape the impression of a collection of unrelated businesses, some of which are admittedly doing rather well.

But it is the quality of those earnings which remains the

perennial root of Berisford's low rating in the market. The prospective multiple is a mere 10, and some of that is owed to bid speculations. Given that the key growth sectors are seen as property and financial services, the rating is unlikely to receive much of a boost.

Sadly, time may be running out for Berisford. Sadly, because it has built up an enthusiastic and capable management team. But it will be hard to resist the destabilizing effects of ABF's hostile block.

Now that Rowntree has effectively gone, bid speculation may die down in the food sector, despite Cadbury still being "in play." But Berisford's 6.2 per cent yield is attractive, and any weakness in the price should be regarded as an opportunity to buy the shares as a good two-way bet.

Smith New

Court

To have remained profitable in the fall-out from Black Monday says something for the Smith New Court's traditional market-making skills. But now the group is faced with a market where volumes are at best sluggish.

This is not a new experience for a company which has survived through the stock market's past peaks and troughs, but today the firm's cost base is higher and the competition is fierce.

Before writing off £4.3 mil-

lion from traded option losses and a £2 million provision for settlement problems, SNC made £3.4 million in the second half of the year.

Admittedly this was a fraction of the figure reported, again before exceptional, in the first half, but an indication that although difficult, it is not impossible to make money when volumes dry up.

SNC is working hard to broaden its earnings base by expansion. The agency business is still small but attention to niche areas is paying off. Even so, it will take time and money to build a broking operation which balances the market-making side of the group.

In the meantime, the company's skill remains essential in market-making and the rise of inter-dealer broking is helping make up for the loss of routine business from integrated securities houses.

SNC's management and reporting systems have been honed since the embarrassing discovery of irregularities on the traded options pitch.

The future share price performance is closely geared to the level of activity in the equity market. This is only now beginning to show signs of life.

The outcome at the pre-tax level is more of a lottery this year than most. Forecasts range from a level year to doubled profits. A takeover, unless agreed, is virtually out of the question.

Munton in £5.25m expansion

By Martin Waller

Munton Brothers, the Belfast-based Ben Sherman shirt manufacturer, is buying Neal and Cooper, a privately-owned maker of swim and leisure wear, and its distributor Cascadewear, for an initial £5.25 million.

Munton also said it had cut pre-tax losses in the half year to end-March from £373,000 to £165,000, before an extraordinary loss of £441,000 relating to a disposal.

Mr Richard Beamish, the chairman, predicts a return to profit at the pre-tax level for the year as a whole.

There is no interim dividend — the last payment was made almost four years ago.

The purchase of Neal and Cooper involves the issue of new shares equivalent to 55 per cent of the current issued capital, most of which will be offered back to existing shareholders.

Mr Beamish said his group was buying good management and a company which owned property worth £1.8 million, cash of more than £1.75 million and £1 million in current assets.

Another £400,000 in consideration is due subsequently.

Builder issue

The offer for sale of 1.2 million shares in the Builder Group, the specialist publisher, has closed over-subscribed. The basis of allocation should be announced today.

S. & W. BERISFORD PLC

"S. & W. Berisford PLC is now in a stronger position than at any previous time in its history and making major strides forward to new levels of growth under its vigorous and dynamic management team. We are armed with a clear strategy capable of producing sustained advances which we are confident will substantially increase the future value of your Company."

E S Margulies
Chairman

The Board is pleased to announce an increased interim dividend of 4.5p (4.0p) net per share. Pre tax profit was £47.1m, up 10.3 per cent.



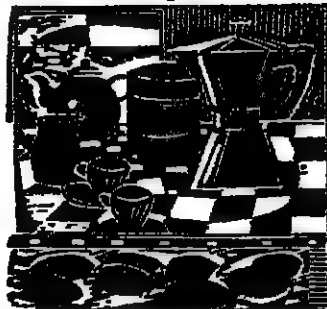
FOOD



FINANCIAL SERVICES



INDUSTRIAL



COMMODITIES



PROPERTY

Traditionally, Berisford has been engaged in the processing and merchandising of key raw materials. Utilising the skills developed in this sophisticated international operation, the Company continues to diversify into five core activities: food, commodity trading, financial services, property and industrial.

If you would like a copy of the S. & W. Berisford Interim Statement please write to the Company Secretary, Berisford Wing, 1 Prescott Street, London, E1 8AY or ring 01-481 9144.

"MAKING MAJOR STRIDES FORWARD"

Food • Commodities • Financial Services • Property • Industrial

RTZ in £33m sale of aggregates firm

By Our City Staff

RTZ Corporation, the mining giant, has severed its last links with the cement and concrete industry with the £33.1 million sale of Thos W Ward (Roadstone) to RMC Group, the building materials company.

Ward's parent company was one of the two firms bought by RTZ in 1982 and combined into Castle Cement, the country's second biggest cement company, which was sold to two Scandinavian groups in March for £230 million.

RTZ said the purchaser had agreed to continue with Ward in its current form. RTZ will now focus on its two identified areas of expansion, the indus-

trial side and natural resources.

In the year to end-December, Ward (Roadstone) made pre-tax profits of £1.32 million. It is based in Sheffield, South Yorkshire, and employs a workforce of about 400. Its four divisions take in the quarrying of road materials, motorway surfacing, architectural stone and concrete products.

The cash payment includes the settlement of all inter-company debt between Ward and RTZ.

RMC said the acquisition increased its annual capacity for producing limestone and granite by 2.3 million tonnes and for crushed stone by 600,000 tonnes.

COMPANY BRIEFS

DELMAR (In)
Pre-tax: £0.54 (0.58p)
EPS: 5.48 (5.21p)
Div: 2.84 (2.15p)

GARDINER (In)
Pre-tax: £0.78 (0.58p)
EPS: 1.38 (1.11p)
Div:

LOWE ROBERT H (In)
Pre-tax: £0.75 (0.40p)
EPS: 10.97 (9.22p)
Div: 1.26 (1p)

MILLWARD BROWN (In)
Pre-tax: £1.41 (1.24p)
EPS: 12.3 (12.5p)
Div: 2.05 mkg 8.3 (3p)

BRIDGEND (In)
Pre-tax: £0.45 (0.28p)
EPS: 2.0 (2.62 loss)
Div: 0.2 mkg 0.4 (0.2p)

NORTH FINE FOODS (In)
Pre-tax: £0.71 (0.53p)
EPS: 8.29 (5.72p)
Div: 1.25p

OAKWOOD (In)
Pre-tax: £0.24 (0.16p)
EPS: 7.6 (8 loss)
Div:

IRISH WIRE (In)(IRE)
Pre-tax: £1.39 (0.83p)
EPS: 13.91 (10.22p)
Div: 1p

Turnover £8.02 (5.51m). Steady profit maintained. New products making a significant contribution.

Turnover £8.63 (7.27m). UK and Dutch operations performing well.

Turnover £12.35 (5.51m). Continued investment into plant and equipment modernization. Suitable acquisitions sought.

Turnover £14.68 (10.69m). Research into European expansion. Tracking service continues to improve.

Turnover £12.50 (0.97m). Efforts being made on developing successful businesses. Heavy competition.

Gross sales £5.86 (3.42m). Launch of 80 new products shortly. £1.3m new machinery being installed.

Turnover £5.42 (5.45m). Satisfactory results with a return to profitability. Optimism for second half.

Sales £6.30 (5.417m). Trading up to expectation. Good growth prospects.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings July 27 Last Dealings September 23 Last Declaration October 10 For Settlement October 10
Call options were taken out on: 28/08/88 Southwest Resources, BP New, Overseas Gold, P & O, Wyndham Group, Thompson, Norfolk Capital, Bristol Channel, Astra Holdings, Yale & Vitor, Metal Box, Whitaker Securities, Magnet, Edmond Holdings, Glaxo & Dairy, Kwik-Fit Holdings, Control Securities.
Put: Scaled Fitting
Puts & Calls: A & M, Whitaker Securities, Norfolk Capital.

Bank of Scotland Base Rate

Bank of Scotland announces that, with effect from Tuesday 28th June 1988 its Base Rate has been increased from 9.00% per annum to 9.50% per annum

BANK OF SCOTLAND
A FRIEND FOR LIFE



NatWest announces that with effect from and including Tuesday 28th June 1988 its Base Rate is increased from 9.00% to 9.50% per annum.

All facilities (including regulated consumer credit agreements) with a rate of interest linked to NatWest Base Rate will be varied accordingly.

41 Lothbury London EC2P 2BP



With effect from the close of business on Tuesday 28th June 1988 and until further notice, TSB Base Rate is increased from 9.00% p.a. to 9.50% p.a.

All facilities (including regulated consumer credit agreements) with a rate of interest linked to TSB Base Rate will be varied accordingly.

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US investor 'made £11m on analyst's inside information'

New York (NYT) - In court proceedings suggesting that insider trading on Wall Street may be far from dead, the Securities and Exchange Commission alleged that a junior analyst at Morgan Stanley had sold confidential information on at least 25 corporate takeovers.

According to the civil complaint, Mr Fred Lee, aged 38, allegedly earned more than \$19 million (£11 million) by trading shares and share options based on the information. According to the complaint, he paid Mr Stephen Sui-Kuan Wang, aged 24, the Morgan Stanley analyst, at least \$200,000 for the information. It was filed early on Monday in the Federal District Court in Manhattan, in what the SEC called an emergency action.

The SEC said its investigation was continuing, suggesting that further individuals may be named. Sources said no criminal charges had been filed but that an investigation by the US attorney in Manhattan was beginning. A spokeswoman for the US attorney would not comment.

According to the SEC, the alleged illegal trading took place between July 1987 and April 1988.

Morgan Stanley was an

adviser on each of the proposed takeovers listed in the SEC complaint. Share prices typically rise after a takeover bid for a company's shares is announced. It is illegal to trade securities using important non-public information about significant corporate developments before it is disclosed.

The nature of the complaint raised two troubling issues. The first is how any junior staff member could possess such sensitive information, especially with the tightened security that most firms claim to have installed since the insider trading scandal erupted two years ago.

Mr Wang was scheduled to leave Morgan Stanley this week after completing a two-year term as a financial analyst, a position many Wall Street firms offer to people straight from university.

Second, Wall Street analysts said the charges, if true, demonstrated that even the widely-publicized prosecution of Ivan Boesky and several other senior Wall Street investors had not put an end to the blatant misuse of confidential information on takeovers.

The alleged \$19 million illicit profits described in the SEC complaint would, if true, make this the second-largest insider trading case uncovered.

after the more than \$80 million earned illegally by Boesky.

Mr Lee's attorney, Mr Michael Perlis, was in Hong Kong on Monday and did not return calls to the San Francisco office of his firm, Pettit & Martin.

Mr Wang's attorney, Mr Ira Lee Sorkin, said: "We've read the complaint and we are studying the SEC's allegations." Mr Wang did not return calls to his office or home.

The possibility that someone would engage in such an insider trading spree after the much publicized prosecution of Boesky and the others stunned many on Wall Street and in the legal community. Mr Gary Lynch, head of enforcement at the SEC, and others said there had been less insider trading in takeover shares than before the insider trading scandal broke, but that it was now increasing again.

The run-up in share prices before a takeover deal is announced is a sign of possible illegal trading.

The SEC court action this week was the latest in a series of developments that began last Friday in Hong Kong, where Mr Lee was being interviewed by SEC investigators.

Australian inquiry into large stake sales

Melbourne (Reuter) - The National Companies and Securities Commission (NCSC), Australia's corporate watchdog, said it is seeking views by July 15 on whether the law and listing rules are adequate to cope with the sales of large interests in companies by single shareholders.

It gave examples of the sales of controlling stakes in the Bell Group by Mr Robert Holmes & Court and in Cumberland Credit Corporation by Mr Larry Adler's FAI Insurance.

"The public concern and the issues raised by the Cumberland Credit Corporation and the Bell Group cases were such that the Commission has considered it necessary to review market expectations in Australia, and the practice overseas, in relation to the obligations on controlling shareholders in disposing of their shareholdings," Mr Charles Williams, the acting chairman of the NCSC, said.

Bond Corporation Holdings eventually launched a full takeover offer for the Bell Group after the NCSC looked into the purchase of equal 19.99 per cent stakes from Mr Holmes & Court by Bond and the Western Australian State Government Insurance Corporation on the same day in April.

Inland Revenue plans to end double tax pact with Netherlands Antilles

(Reuter) - The Inland Revenue said it was proposing to give notice of termination of double taxation agreements with the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba, Lesser Antilles.

Bond market sources said the effect of this would be that a limited number of Eurobonds issued by subsidiaries of British companies would become liable to British withholding tax.

Under the proposals, the tax agreements will cease to have effect in Britain from next April, the Revenue said.

Further discussions would take place with the Netherlands

Antilles with a view to preparing a text leading to termination of the pacts.

The Government intends to preserve the existing exemption from tax of interest paid from Britain to the Netherlands Antilles to fund the payment of interest on Eurobonds issued by Netherlands Antilles finance subsidiaries before July 26, 1984.

Bond market sources said this meant Eurobonds issued by the Netherlands Antilles subsidiaries of British companies after that date would become liable to a 25 per cent British withholding tax.

An Inland Revenue official said he did not know how many Eurobonds would be affected, but the sources said only a handful of such issues would be hit.

One bond analyst noted that British companies were not great borrowers in the Eurobond market. "Those that do use the market tend to issue directly or through Dutch subsidiaries," he added. He had identified only five issues which he believed would be affected.

Bond market sources said most Eurobonds included clauses which enabled the

borrower to redeem bonds early if a withholding tax was introduced.

"But we're not going to see the fun and games we saw in 1987," the analyst said, referring to a US Treasury announcement last July that it was ending its double taxation pact with the Netherlands Antilles.

However, the Treasury backed down a few days later and said interest paid by United States companies to the Netherlands Antilles would remain exempt from the United States withholding tax.

Law Report June 29 1988

Letter does not affect possession

Mount Carmel Investments Ltd v Smees and Another
Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Nicholls and Lord Justice Mann
[Judgment June 28]

Where a squatter was in possession of the property, the sending by the owner of a letter demanding possession did not have the effect of depriving the recipient of possession and transferring it to the owner for the purposes of limitation.

Unless the squatter vacated or gave a written acknowledgment of the owner's rights, in order to claim possession the owner had to issue a writ within the limitation period.

Extinguishment of title to land extinguished not only the right to claim rent during the period of adverse possession, but also the right to claim damages for trespass and mesne profits.

The Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal of the plaintiffs.

Mount Carmel Investments Ltd, and allowed the cross-appeal of the defendant, **Miss Elizabeth Smees**, from a decision of Mr John Peppitt, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division on May 15 and June 17, 1987, whereby he had dismissed the plaintiffs' claim for possession of premises at 38, Queen's Gate Place Mews, South Kensington, London, but had awarded them £1,250 as damages for trespass in respect of the period from January 30, 1981 to October 1982. The second defendant, **Peter Thurlow Ltd**, took no part in the proceedings.

Mr Alan Newman and Mr Anthony White for the plaintiffs; Mr Nicholas Merriman, QC, for the defendant.

LORD JUSTICE NICHOLLS, delivering the judgment of the court, said that the plaintiffs were registered as the proprietor of the freehold of 38, Queen's Gate Place Mews.

The defendant was in occupation of the first and second floors. She claimed that the plaintiffs' title had been extinguished by adverse possession which had continued since October 1970.

The plaintiffs had been registered with absolute title to the whole of the property on July 26, 1962. It had become empty and remained unoccupied until

1970, by which time it had been fast becoming derelict. A Mr Renwick had forced an entry and had begun to use the garage for the storage of vintage motor cars.

In October 1970 he had moved upstairs and taken possession of the property adverse to the plaintiffs. He had retained actual possession until the defendant and a Mr Scott had gone into occupation.

In January 1974 Mr Renwick had permitted Peter Thurlow Ltd to go into exclusive occupation. Its directors were the defendant and Mr Scott. Mr Renwick had purported to act on behalf of a company of which he was director, **Keithshire Properties Ltd**.

In August 1971, Mr Renwick had caused to be registered at the Land Registry a purported lease and assignment.

Mr Renwick had been convicted of forgery in March 1979. The entries relating to the forged lease and assignment had been struck off the register.

What was established, by admission of the plaintiffs, was that after Mr Renwick took possession of the property there had been continuous possession adverse to the plaintiffs up to the date when the action had been brought, at which time the defendant had been in possession. The date on which the plaintiffs had issued their writ seeking possession was February 28, 1983.

In February 1982 a Mr Geoffrey Pattinson had bought the shares in the plaintiffs for £80,000. The plaintiffs' only substantial asset had been the freehold of 38, Queen's Gate Place Mews and the price paid had been a fair price for the freehold with vacant possession. Mr Pattinson had known that squatters were there.

It followed that, Mr Renwick having taken possession adverse to the plaintiffs in October 1970, more than 12 years had elapsed before the writ had been issued on February 28, 1983.

Prima facie, therefore, adverse possession having continued unbroken throughout that period, the plaintiffs' title to the property had been extinguished before the writ had been issued.

On January 30, 1981 solicitors acting for the plaintiffs had written to Peter Thurlow Ltd and to Mr Scott and the

defendant requiring the property to be vacated by February 28, 1981.

On February 13, 1981 solicitors had answered on behalf of all three, rejecting the contention that they were in unlawful occupation and denying that the plaintiffs were entitled to determine their clients' right to occupy the property.

Mr Newman's first argument, which was novel, and indeed startling in its implications, was that the defendant ceased to be in possession, for the purpose of time running in her favour, when she received the letter dated January 30, 1981. The defendant had ceased to be in adverse possession within paragraph 8(2) of Part I of Schedule 1 to the Limitation Act 1980 when she received that letter because the plaintiffs had indicated, in the clearest possible way, an intention to take possession. That, he said, amounted to the acquisition of constructive possession.

That argument could not be accepted. Nothing changed at the property when the letter was received. Before receipt of the letter the property was in possession of the defendant, in whose favour the period of limitation was running. It had still been in her possession afterwards. The sending and receipt of the letter could not have the effect of making the property cease to be in adverse possession.

By the letter the plaintiffs asserted a claim. That was all. Where a person was in possession of property, and another was not, the mere sending and receipt of a letter by which delivery up of possession was demanded, could not have the effect in law for limitation purposes that the recipient of the letter ceased to be in possession and the sender of the letter acquired possession.

Mr Newman had claimed to be assisted by some observations of Lord Diplock in *Ocean Estates Ltd v Pinder* (1969) 2 AC 19, 25. Lord Diplock's observations had not been directed at that question, and he would have been astounded to know of the use sought to be made of what he had said.

Mr Newman had also referred to section 13 of the Limitation Act 1939 ("For the purposes of

this Act, no person shall be deemed to have been in possession of any land by reason only of having made a formal entry thereon...").

He had drawn attention to its repeal by the Limitation Act 1980. Whatever might be the purpose and effect of that statutory change, there was no context therein requiring "possession" in paragraph 8 of the 1980 Act to be given the novel and distorted meaning submitted by Mr Newman.

On Mr Newman's argument time started to run afresh by making a demand for possession. That was in flat contradiction to the long-recognized position and the statutory scheme which a squatter was in possession of the land. Unless the squatter vacated or gave a written acknowledgment to the owner, the owner had to issue his writ within the prescribed time limit.

Mr Newman's second argument was that the plaintiffs were entitled to ride home on the back of Mr Renwick. That was well founded only if the defendant's continuation in occupation after Mr Renwick ended his connection with the property was contrary to his will.

The right inference to be drawn from the facts was that Mr Renwick had not been dispossessed but rather that he had abandoned any rights to possession he might have had.

The judge had held that the Limitation Act 1980 had not deprived the plaintiffs of rights which they had enjoyed up to the time when their title was barred in October 1982. He had awarded them £1,250 as damages for trespass in respect of the period from January 30, 1981, when possession had been demanded, up to October 1982.

On that question the court had had the advantage, denied to the judge, of being referred to *In re Jolly* (1900) 2 Ch 616. Mr Newman had sought to distinguish that case on the ground that the claim had been for rent, and in the present case was for damages for trespass.

That could not be accepted. If extinguishment of title to land extinguished also the right to claim rent which was payable during the period of adverse possession, must it also extinguish any claim to damages during that period? Second, when title to land was extinguished by statute, the rights which that title carried were also extinguished.

The plaintiffs' appeal should be dismissed and the defendant's cross-appeal allowed.

Solicitors: Sears Tooth & Co, Fremont & Co.

Correction

In *Pratkovanska Plavilna v L. N. T. Lines SRL* (The Times June 28) Mr Andrew Hillier appeared for Hill Dickinson & Co and Mr Adrian Hughes for William A. Crump & Son.



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Continued on page 36

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MEDIA & MARKETING

Bitter taste of yob appeal

OPINION
Bruce Haines

Nobody likes a drunk. The only way anyone can get drunk is to drink too much of a product which has historically been regarded as a beneficial social stimulant and which, in the latter half of this century, has received much commercial promotion. Recently, the commercial promotion of alcoholic drinks, particularly advertising, has come under fire as a root cause of public drunken disorder.

How to isolate the effect of advertising on consumer behaviour is a question rarely adequately answered. Agencies and their clients are quick to claim success for campaigns which change behaviour for the better — the excellent Drink Drive campaign, for example — but are equally quick to play down the power of advertising when it may be contributing to anything unpleasant.

The MASHAM Committee's recommendation to ban all television advertising for alcoholic drinks was met with embarrassing screams of anguish from some advertising and drinks marketing people who really ought to know better.

I agree that advertising alone is not enough to make sane, rational people go out, get drunk and behave obnoxiously. But not everyone is sane and rational; some are immature, impressionable and very susceptible to accurately targeted advertising. This in itself would not be such a problem if the creative content of drinks advertising obeyed the spirit, as well as the letter, of the existing Code of Advertising Practice. Sadly, many campaigns have simply ignored both, and must shoulder much of the blame for the fact that a more rigorous code is now under consideration by the Home Office.

One excuse for this lack of responsibility has been the school of thought which holds that advertising's job is to

reflect society as it is rather than to change it. Fair enough, but if you hold up a mirror to any target audience they will demand a reflection that is bigger, better, wealthier, more beautiful, more macho than that which reality provides. This is particularly true among the young who, less sure of their own worth, look for guidance from more confident role models in the media and in their own community.

Agencies, when faced with the problem of differentiating between brands with very similar product characteristics, have increasingly resorted to selling a brand on a product-based proposition in favour of advertising which attempts to persuade via the imagery of the role model drinker. Because consumers react well to aspirant messages (women who drink Brand X are more beautiful, men who drink Brand Y are more macho), using drinker imagery inevitably leads us smack up against the code which forbids such promises.

Campaigns like those for Heineken and Holsten, even though they are popular with the young, save themselves from too much criticism in my book because they are essentially witty, well-mannered and don't take themselves too seriously.

Where our industry has done the community a great disservice is in producing advertising that apes some of the worst aggressive and sexist behaviour of the target audience. In short, Yob Advertising. This advertising attempts to persuade young, essentially inexperienced people that a brand belongs to them, that it has street credibility and so excludes their parents and the establishment. I hold on to the hope that such advertising appeals only to the small minority whose behaviour it imitates.

The author is managing director of advertising agency Laagas Delaney.

Last night, in a ceremony at the Strand Palace Hotel, a new £1,000 prize for medical journalists was presented for the first time. With at least four comparable annual awards to compete for, these specialist scribbles should have been happy. Not so: some of the journalists think their integrity is compromised because three of the other prizes are sponsored by drug companies.

The new prize is unique because it is financed by the writers themselves through their Medical Journalists Association (MJA). "Journalists of the year" are not hard to find in most consumer fields. At a lunch party recently, I met two "wine writers of the year" — one sponsored by the drinks company Glenfiddich, the other by the Wine Guild. Increasingly these awards are accompanied by not inconsiderable financial rewards, sponsored by a leading company in that field. Indeed companies queue up for the privilege of attaching their names to such competitions.

The MJA has now decided to take a stand against this trend. Three years ago Andrew Veitch — then medical correspondent of *The Guardian*, now of Channel 4 News — proposed at the association's annual general meeting that the four main existing awards should be scrapped because of links with the pharmaceutical industry.

He recalls it was around the time that Opren, an anti-arthritis drug manufactured by Eli Lilly, was

'It is wrong for a journalists' association to be beholden to any industrial group'

linked with serious side effects in elderly people. But the Medical Journalism Research Award, worth £1,250, was sponsored by Eli Lilly. "For them to run an award when Opren was under a cloud seemed wrong," says Veitch. After a lively debate, Veitch's motion was defeated by just one vote.

The MJA subsequently decided, while keeping the four awards, to set up its own independent prize. Journalists are not known for their largesse, but the association's 330 members agreed that their subscriptions should be raised to £20 a year to help finance the award.

Eli Lilly dropped its sponsorship of the Research Award the following year. Derek Anthony, the company's director of public relations, says this had nothing to do with the MJA motion. "We had sponsored it for 10 years and we thought that long enough," he says. New backing was quickly found from the private health insurance group, PPP. The

Award for integrity

Is it unethical for journalists to accept prizes sponsored by companies with a vested interest?
Andrew Lycett reports on a Press backlash



other sponsors — Reckitt and Colman, Smith Kline and French, and Pearl Assurance — continued their support. Reckitt and Colman Pharmaceuticals also put up the money for the most valuable prize — the £1,500 Medical Journalism Award.

Philip Cross, R and C's marketing manager for proprietary medicines, says the company "remains happy to be associated with an award which encourages medical journalism". Not many people link his company with pharmaceuticals, he adds. It is better known for mustard and other foodstuffs. Sponsoring the award encourages journalists

"to think of us when they need a comment". Veitch is not convinced. Choosing his words carefully, he says: "It is wrong for a journalists' association to be beholden to any industrial group."

Not everyone feels this way. Alan Massam, medical correspondent of the *Evening Standard* and chairman of the MJA, disagrees with Veitch's chastisement of the drug companies: "There are many more insidious and effective ways in which commercial groups influence journalists," he says.

Tony Loyne, editor and publisher of the *UK Press Gazette*, says he gets "lots" of telephone calls from PR companies wanting to sponsor press awards. "I say: don't bother, the journalists would not want to know about them even if they existed." A year ago *Press Gazette* attempted to publish a supplement of prizes open to journalists. "We failed miserably because although we identified around 40, we didn't get anywhere near the total number."

Nevertheless marketing directors continue to think sponsoring such awards is worthwhile. Peter Fishbourne, marketing and new business director of Argos, which sponsors a prize for consumer journalists, says that although coverage of such competitions is minimal, "from our point of view it enables us to build contacts" with the media. Other companies sponsoring awards for journalists include BP (industry and arts),

'There are many more insidious ways in which commercial groups influence journalists'

Badoit (food) and Jet Petroleum (motoring).

Loyne clearly thinks awards for journalists can be useful. For *Press Gazette* runs the British Regional Press Awards, sponsored by the Post Office. He says the demand was there: regional journalists often missed out on other prizes, and 900 entered last year.

Even top-of-the-range competitions like the British Press Awards and Granada's *What the Papers Say* Awards do not escape criticism. Hugh Stephenson, professor of journalism at City University, says the media spend too much time congratulating themselves, and often these prizes are given on a principle of rotation.

However, it is what Loyne calls "single subject type awards" which draw most flak, where, for example, "you can only enter if you've written about mustard. The inevitable end is the promotion of mustard."

A 20 year love affair

How US television fell for Wimbledon

Roscoe Tanner has a very special place in the heart of Ted Nathanson and his NBC television team, which is celebrating its 20th anniversary of Wimbledon coverage this year.

Tanner was Bjorn Borg's opponent in the 1979 final — the year the New York chiefs of NBC, one of America's big three network television companies, decided to start treating Wimbledon as a major sporting event rather than something to be wedged into their weekend programming if the baseball finished early.

"They had cleared four hours of network time after one of our colleagues, Bob Basche, had thought up the idea of *Breakfast at Wimbledon*," explained Dick Enberg who, with the flamboyant Bud Collins, had shared the commentary for the past decade. "Timewise it was a perfect fit for Sunday morning viewing back home but we desperately needed a good match and, above all, a match that would go the distance. We were terrified that Borg would wipe the court with Tanner, but Roscoe did us proud and it went to five sets."

Collins emphasized how lucky NBC was in the battle to get Wimbledon accepted among the hard-nosed money men who sell the commercial time for the show, which is the longest live sports programme on American television.

"We had no right to expect four great finals in successive years, but from 1979 that's what we got," said Collins. "And, above all, we got the Borg-McEnroe tie-break."

Technically, Nathanson has presided over a series of improvements, beginning with the battle to get the All England Club Committee to agree to ground level cameras opposite the umpire's chair.

"We started off with just two high cameras and had to fight to get more because the BBC was very conservative and was not inclined to become emotionally involved with the players. But we have learnt to appreciate each other's talents and have a good working relationship."

Enberg is adamant that Wimbledon remains the favourite event he covers. "Wimbledon makes me want to write poetry," he says. "It's the only way I could do it justice. But to be realistic, more than poetry, we need a good, long men's singles final next Sunday, otherwise the kiddies will be switching back to the breakfast time cartoons."

Richard Evans

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Evert answers Sukova's tactical test

By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

Chris Evert reached the semi-finals of the women's singles with a 6-3, 7-6 win over Helena Sukova at Wimbledon yesterday evening. Sukova took a set to find the range with her service and her ground strokes, but after that she gave Evert a severe test.

Sukova has an impressive all-round game. She serves and volleys well, hits formidable passing shots, and also knows how to use the drop and lob. In the second set she often put it all together effectively, and she produced an admirable mixture of the long and short games. It was Sukova's misfortune that Evert was playing even better, varying her tactics and coming up with the answers to most of the questions that Sukova asked.

This was a thoughtful, tactically engrossing match. Perhaps as critical a shot as any in the tie-break came when Sukova attempted a low backhand approach shot that went into the net to give Evert a 5-4 lead with two services to come.

The first week of the championships was too good to remain true of the second week. On Monday, play was called off at 7.30 because of rain and bad light. Yesterday, persistent drizzle prevented any prospect of play until afternoon tea had become a memory.

We had ample time to digest

the latest betting odds, plus an official statement about the courts and the tennis. City Index, sometimes known as "the yuppies' bookmakers", announced that Boris Becker and Steffi Graf were still favourites, though other bookmakers offered even shorter odds against Becker.

Becker was offered at 2-1, Stefan Edberg and Ivan Lendl at 4-1, Pat Cash at 5-1, Mats Wilander at 6-1, Miloslav Mecir at 14-1, and Jimmy Connors at 25-1. Graf was 7-4 on, Martina Navratilova 6-4 against, and Evert 16-1.

The statement referred to an exceptional growth of grass after a mild winter. "The grass is both denser and softer than normal and can be more susceptible to damage," Dur-



ing the first week the weather had been unusually good, and it was more than a decade since as many matches had been completed "subjecting the courts to almost continuous wear and tear".

The statement continued: "Clearly grass is a more fragile surface than clay or other hard

surfaces, and can be damaged by the more heavy-footed players, particularly those who drag their feet."

Buzzer Haddingham, chairman of the management committee, offered these provocative comments: "It is evident from the reaction of spectators and television viewers to some of the excellent tennis we have seen over the past few days that they recognize that grass is the most exciting surface of all — and we have the best."

That was justifiably proud; but was also a little tendentious and contained two non sequiturs. We did indeed have some thrilling tennis during the first seven days. But it did not necessarily follow that grass was the most exciting surface, nor that Wimbledon's was the best.

Wimbledon's respected chairman could have an interesting exchange with the lady who told me on Monday: "I don't like these crash-bang-walloppers. That's not tennis." She was grateful for the fact that Mecir and Wilander were still in the running for the men's title.

The same lady added that when watching tennis on television she now turned the sound off, because she found the crowd noise excessive and intolerable. But perhaps that has to be accepted as part of the changing scene at an increasingly commercial Wimbledon.

Spectators produced their

own entertainment, including a juggling act and a rain dance, until play resumed at 5.20, on the main courts at least. The light was still gloomy enough to produce a mirror-like gloom on the faces of photographers. At Wimbledon, everybody is a perfectionist.

It was refreshing to find Rosalyn Fairbank and Pascale Paradis in the women's quarter-finals, a round further than either had previously progressed in any grand slam tournament. But both have respectable if not distinguished records. Fairbank had beaten two seeds, Lori McNeil and Natalia Zvereva.

One of the oddest talking points of the day concerned Ivan Lendl's socks. There is 6ft 2in of Lendl, all of it tidy. Whatever the stress of com-

Connors out

Jimmy Connors, the No 5 seed competing in his seventh Wimbledon at the age of 35, was beaten in his fourth round match against the unseeded, 22-year-old West German, Patrick Kuken, 5-7, 7-6, 7-6, 6-3. Kuken, who is through to the quarter-finals of a major tournament for the first time in his career, will meet Stefan Edberg, the No 3 seed, today.

petition, his socks are permanently poised on his calf muscles. They always stay up.

Rumour has it that Lendl was once provided with some comfortably adhesive socks and liked them so much that he acquired the entire stock. One has a picture of a sock-packer cupboard (firmly closed, so that his German Shepherd dogs cannot get to the contents) in his house at Greenwich, Connecticut.

To get back to tennis, we now know the eight seeded players who will compete in the Charrington Insurance Bournemouth hard-court championships the week after Wimbledon. What a mixed bag they are: Jeremy Bates, Stephen Shaw, Chris Lewis, John Alexander, Mark Cox, Jonathan Smith, Robin Drysdale, and John Feaver.

But it will be fun to have a decent professional tournament at Bournemouth again. That, after all, is where open competition first happened 20 years ago.



Handsome reply: Evert delivers a backhand riposte to Sukova (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

END COLUMN

Time to cater for real punters

By Simon Barnes

Wet weather at Wimbledon makes me cross. I don't mean that I rail at the almighty, let alone at the rainy-day arrangements of the All-England Club: what gets me angry is lunch: other people's lunch. Because I know what wet weather brings in its wake at Wimbledon.

As the rain comes, so the fixtures start to back up, and if there is enough rain, there comes a time when the schedule for the two show courts has to be changed. Instead of starting at two, play is likely to begin at 12.30.

Play begins at 12.30 on the outside courts every day, and of course, the courts are always packed. There are the standees, and seats for pertinacious. But when play begins at 12.30 on centre or on court one, the two places are half-empty. It is the only time that the centre court, one of the most atmospheric arenas in world sport, seems ordinary: empty it has something, full it has everything. But between 12.30 and two, it is just another court.

The reason for this is lunch. The empty seats do not belong to those who snatch a burger and a few of the five-bob-each strawberries. This is serious lunching: these are the seats allocated for corporate entertainment. Many people who organize sporting events see corporate entertainment as the saviour of sport as we know it. There are times when I believe that corporate entertainment could, in the end, be sport's ruin.

Tennis delicacies went untasted

There are people in this world — I accept this — who would prefer lobster and champagne to, say, Leconte and Mayotte, or Becker and Anand. Delicacies that were on the (untasted) menu yesterday. And that is fair enough. But what are such people doing at Wimbledon?

There are maniacs who queue all night just to stand on the centre court. And they queue for days, these mad gluttons for deprivation, for the finals. Their function, it seems, is to reinforce the sense of privilege enjoyed by the people in the hospitality tents: they are the cannon fodder, the pawns, of the corporate hospitality boom.

It seems that at every sporting event I go to, more and more space gets allotted to lunch, the dancers of the lobster quadrille, and less and less for the real punters. Entertaining foreign clients, tax-deductible, loadsmoney. Like having your own oil well.

But I wonder if some of the gains from the corporate hospitality bubble are short-term. Real punters begin to feel rather resentful if, after paying their own entry fee and having queued for hours into the bargain, they see that the people with the best seats are not even troubling to sit in them.

A regular sight at sporting events

It is now one of the regular sights of the sporting year: the crowd of champagne-drinkers roaring with laughter, knocking it back, and all with their backs resolutely turned to the action.

All sporting events need an atmosphere: the oohs and aahs of Wimbledon, the ripples of applause at Lord's the roars at a football match the cries of anguish at a race, the pin-drop silence before a big point on centre court. In short, sporting events need real punters: sport needs to cherish them, look after them, pamper to their whims.

Because if there were no real punters, a sporting event would collapse like a soufflé. A Test match, a tennis final, a football match, watched entirely by the corporate entertained, would be a non-event. And so the corporate entertained would no longer wish to go.

Sport fights with corporate entertainment apparently unaware of its dangers, of the ever-present alternative of watching the damn thing on television. But if sport has any sense, it will start a new movement: the Campaign for Real Punters.

Navratilova wakens to task

By David Powell

Martina Navratilova had the right to sleep on the prospect of defeat by Larisa Savchenko. However, her nightmare proved less damaging than her opponent's day-dreaming. When play resumed yesterday, Savchenko played as if half-asleep. Navratilova won without needing to look like a champion.

When drizzle halted proceedings on Monday evening, Savchenko led 4-2 in the first set. The conditions upset Navratilova. "They need to have some kind of meter to show when it's too dark to play," she said after her 6-4, 6-2 fourth-round victory. "We should never have started the match."

Yesterday's rain delayed the restart on court one by more than three hours. Navratilova had waited long enough. Two cross-court backhands and one on the forehand, all from the rear of the court, enabled her to break back. Soon she realized that risks were unnecessary. Savchenko gave her all the help she needed. The No. 13 seed from the Soviet Union added only seven first-set points to those she had gained on Monday.

Navratilova admitted to her worry at the overnight score. She may have recalled, too, that it was Savchenko, at Wimbledon last year, who, in partnership with Svetlana Parkhomenko, ended her win-

ning sequence of 51 doubles matches with Pam Shriver.

Yesterday was scheduled as women's quarter-finals day. Navratilova should have been playing Natalia Zvereva, the No. 8 seed, at that stage. But a scalp from Moscow is as good as one from Minsk. "I am on a mission against all Russians," Navratilova said, recalling her defeat by Zvereva, aged 17, in the French championship.

She catches up with the others today. Rosalyn Fairbank, who beat Zvereva in the fourth round on Monday, is her quarter-final opponent. Fairbank, from South Africa, is unseeded and is the only player remaining who can stop the top four seeds contesting the semi-finals.

FA reconsiders Wembley plan

By Steve Acteson

The Football Association (FA) has agreed to take a fresh look at an application by Wembley to stage a football tournament in August involving Tottenham Hotspur, Arsenal, Bayern Munich and AC Milan. The FA had declined to sanction the event because of fears about hooliganism.

After telephone discussions yesterday between the FA secretary, Ted Croker, and the chief executive of Wembley, David Griffiths, Croker agreed to reconvene the FA's emergency committee next week.

Griffiths is convinced that he can persuade the FA to allow the tournament to go ahead. Griffiths said: "After all, we are prepared to do anything they want us to do. All we want is the chance to run a successful tournament at a stadium that has not only the best safety record in Britain but probably in all of Europe as well."

"The FA and we are partners so I could not understand how they could take such an important decision without even consulting us." The partnership agreement, signed in 1983, has another 16 years to run.

Griffiths consulted legal counsel for an hour yesterday morning about whether Wembley might have a case against the FA for "unreasonable action". Griffiths added hastily: "That is the last thing we would have wanted to do, however."

The fact that the FA has now agreed to take a second look may also serve to spare its officials from an embarrassing own goal. It is in danger of alienating two powerful European Football Union (UEFA) voices, if AC Milan and Bayern Munich, are told that they are not welcome.

The presidents of both clubs, Dr Fritz Scherer and Dr Silvio Berlusconi, have great influence with the UEFA com-

mittee and both clubs had taken trouble to make sure they could play in the Wembley event and had signed contracts.

Bayern had asked for, and received, a special dispensation from the Bundesliga to postpone their scheduled match that weekend. And Wembley's invitation was the only one to be accepted by the Milan club, who plan to use the event as an integral part of their pre-season preparations. When news of the FA decision reached Milan on Monday, Milan officials were said to be astounded.

Milan, whose line-up includes the Dutchmen, Ruud Gullit and Marco van Basten, were also keen to take part because the tournament was to be held at Wembley and because of the success of their recent match against Manchester United at Old Trafford. That match was watched by 37,000 people but not one arrest was made. Bayern also played in

Britain last season, at Goodison Park against Everton as part of the Football League's centenary celebrations. That game was also free of crowd trouble.

As precautions against trouble Wembley would make only seated accommodation available and both Wembley and the foreign clubs have agreed that no tickets will be sold to supporters from Italy and West Germany.

Yesterday the Wembley offices received many calls from the public supporting their plans to hold the tournament and expressing dismay over the FA decision.

Wolverhampton Wanderers have been refused permission by the Football League to take part in a pre-season tournament in the Isle of Man because of the fear of crowd trouble. The League have refused to back Wolves' application following trouble at the club's away games last season.

ITV proposal brings back thoughts of super league

By Peter Ball

After the bomb launched into their cosy worlds by British Satellite Broadcasting (BSB) two months ago, the football and television authorities are becoming inured to sudden explosions.

Yesterday, both sides were cautiously picking their way round the latest missile fired by ITV to see if it was a genuine firecracker or just a damp squib, while at the same time trying to avoid the inevitable blast of hot air from Robert Maxwell.

After starting the whole round of exchanges with their bid for football, and we are proceeding to contract."

The BBC and the Football League both had nothing to add to their statements on Monday, although a Football League spokesman commented that it was "heartening that ITV realize that football is such an attractive proposition."

No such reticence affected Maxwell, the former chairman of Oxford United, relegated last season from the first division, who responded to ITV's offer of £10 million for exclusive rights to the home games of 10 top clubs by insisting "in my opinion it is still not enough."

He added that Maxwell Communications, very much a minor player in the television arena at present, might put in its own bid, possibly in alliance with the BBC. There were no reports of the BBC responding positively to that suggestion.

Back in the real world, the ITV proposal evoked less interest than the response of the 10 clubs involved. In particular, the big five are seen as prime movers in the affair, and the presence of Aston Villa, Newcastle United and Sheffield Wednesday also in the group evokes memories of the bid to form a super league four years ago.

Suggestions that it is a first step on the way to a super league this time is at the moment an exaggeration, even though it may be the logical conclusion to the proposals. At the moment, more prosaically, it is just another round in the struggle of the big clubs to wrest a bigger share of the cake from their smaller colleagues.

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Faldo finds peace after the anguish

From Mitchell Platts
Golf Correspondent
Monte Carlo

Nick Faldo yesterday revealed, as he prepared for the Monte Carlo Open, which starts today on the Mont Agel course, that he has never felt more relaxed in his life.

That should be interpreted as a warning to his rivals, who include Severiano Ballesteros, Mark McNulty, Ian Baker-Finch and Peter Senior, the defending champion. Faldo has every intention of following his French Open win with another triumph. More importantly, it provides ample evidence that Faldo is in a positive frame of mind to defend the Open Championship at Royal Lytham and St Annes in two weeks.

Yet Faldo admits that the three years of hard labour which eventually opened the door to his arrival as one of the leading golfers in the world provided such anguish that he could not go through it again.

He said: "I started to remodel my swing at the end of 1984 and I did not win until the Spanish Open last May. I slipped to 45th place in the Sony World rankings."

"Now I'm back in sixth place and, of course, I'm thinking about being the number one. That is very difficult in the modern world of golf

Card of course

Hole	Yds	Par	Hole	Yds	Par
1	469	5	10	386	4
2	130	3	11	374	4
3	332	4	12	138	3
4	190	3	13	335	4
5	282	4	14	141	3
6	344	4	15	244	4
7	282	3	16	265	4
8	192	3	17	411	5
9	322	4	18	261	4
Out 2,324 34 In 2,850 35					
Total yardage: 5,180 Par: 69					

because, as far as I see it, there are at least six golfers capable of winning when it is their week.

"Even so, I would not want to go through another three years, as I did, of not winning at all. That leaves you so frustrated and uptight because you are putting in such an effort and getting no reward."

"I was fortunate because eventually everything went right for me. I won the Open Championship last summer and I will always have that to look back upon. Because of it I have never felt more relaxed in my life."

Faldo, however, will require all his patience to conquer this course, which sits 2,500 feet above the principality of Monaco. It is his first appearance in this tournament and so the low cloud which engulfs the course came as a surprise during the pro-am yesterday.

A setback for Whitbread

By Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent

Fatima Whitbread's chances of Olympic victory at Seoul were said to be in some jeopardy by athletics officials yesterday, when it was reported that she was to take "a lengthy break" from competition.

Whitbread was in a London hospital last night, having an abscess removed from her back. It was also revealed that she is suffering from glandular fever, a debilitating illness.

That would well explain Whitbread's poor form in recent weeks, after she started

her season reasonably well, with a throw of 70.10 metres to win her eighth successive United Kingdom championship.

However, the world champion and former world record holder has had three extremely poor competitions since then, losing badly in all of them, and barely throwing over 60 metres in the last.

In the meantime, Whitbread's record of 77.43 metres has been improved twice, to 78.14 metres by her

great rival, Petra Felke of East Germany.

Whitbread beat Felke in both the European and world championships in the last two years. The British thrower has been handicapped by injury to her throwing arm recently, but she had a similar injury last summer before going on to take the world title in Rome.

She is due to stay in hospital for three or four nights following the minor operation but will be encouraged by the fact that the Olympics are still well over two months away.

Fashanu's new goal

Lagos (Reuter) — John Fashanu, leading goal-scorer with Wimbledon, said last night that he wants to play for Nigeria, where he is holidaying. Fashanu, who was born in England of Nigerian parents, could play for either country.

Dublin date

Seb Coe, the double Olympic 1,500 metres champion, will compete in the Dublin Millennium international meeting at Salford on July 12.



Clark in charge

Captain Clark

Howard Clark will be the playing captain of the six-strong Volvo tour team to meet Sweden in the first PLM Open Cup match at Flornem, Sweden, on August 9.

French record

Asuncion (Reuter) — France romped to the highest rugby union score ever recorded in an international yesterday when they crushed Paraguay 106-12 in the final match of their South American tour.

Trust's carrot

Football League clubs have been handed a £100,000 incentive to enter into the community spirit by the Football Trust. From next season, the club from each of the four divisions which shows the greatest commitment to the community will receive £20,000 — and there will be an additional £20,000 for the overall winner.

Fortune finds Dilley a perfect pace partner

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

England's planning for the third Cornhill Test, which starts at Old Trafford tomorrow, lay in disarray last night after Paul Jarvis had withdrawn with a back injury and Nick Cook had reported himself doubtful due to a sprained ankle.

Following an intensive round of telephone calls among the selectors, Greg Thomas was added to the squad in Jarvis's place and John Childs, of Essex, was asked to travel to Manchester today as cover for Cook. The one piece of comforting news was that Mike Gatting confirmed his recovery from a swollen knee and will make his welcome return to the side.

Jarvis's decision came as a surprise. He had bowled rapidly and well to take four for 21 at Hove yesterday, but the back strain to which he had alerted the selectors at the weekend is apparently still troubling him.

With neither Small nor Foster considered fit enough for a five-day game, Thomas was the logical substitute. He was included in the party for the first Test at Trent Bridge but did not play; since then, he has returned to the same ground to achieve figures of six for 68 against Nottinghamshire. Those close to the Glamorgan side insist he is

bowling better than at any stage of his largely frustrating career, and what a bonus it would be for England if, through this unforeseen recall, he could provide some genuine pace as partner to Dilley.

England seem increasingly likely to include two spinners, as they should on a pitch providing more consistent turn than any in the country. Oddly enough, there is a case for thinking they may be better served if Childs, rather than Cook, is in the final line-up. Although now approaching the age of 37, and past the point of waiting for the phone to ring on Test selection day, Childs is an attacking spinner, not afraid to use the virtues of flight.

When Cook hobbled away from Trent Bridge yesterday, his first home Test appearance since 1984 in obvious jeopardy, it seemed an ideal opportunity to summon Ian Folley, the young Lancashire left arm. He took six for 20 against Glamorgan yesterday and would know better than anyone how to exploit his home pitch. Childs, who has been playing county cricket for 14 years and taken almost 600 wickets, will not, however, be an unpopular choice among cricketers.